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General Assembly

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Official Records

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Monday, 16 December 2002, 10 a.m.
New York

President: Mr. Kavan ..... (Czech Republic)

The meeting was called to order at 10.15 a.m.

Programme of work

The President: Before proceeding to the items on our agenda for today, I would like to inform Members that action on draft resolution A/57/L.67, under agenda item 42, entitled "Follow-up to the outcome of the twenty-sixth special session: implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS", which had been announced in the Journal of last Friday, 13 December 2002, is postponed to a later date in order to allow for the review of the programme budget implications.

Agenda item 44 (*continued*)

Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit

Draft resolutions (A/57/L.6/Rev.1, A/57/L.61)

The President: Members will recall that the General Assembly held its debate on this agenda item at the 22nd to 26th plenary meetings on 4, 7 and 8 October 2002.

It is my honour to present to your attention draft resolution A/57/L.61, entitled "Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit".

In the draft resolution in front of you, I have reflected views of Member States expressed during the general debate on agenda item 44 and also in the course of the negotiation process on this draft resolution.

Operative paragraph 2 of this draft resolution recognizes the uneven progress achieved in the implementation of objectives and goals of the Millennium Declaration, as stated in the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration (document A/57/270 and Corr.1) and expressed by many of you during our deliberations. Since Member States are in the driver's seat in implementing the Millennium Declaration, this operative paragraph, therefore, urges the Member States to undertake with determination appropriate measures towards its implementation.

Operative paragraph 3 invites the entities of the United Nations system and other interested parties to continue to pursue vigorously the achievement of the objectives and goals of the Millennium Declaration.

Operative paragraph 4 invites the entities of the United Nations system, the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization to engage in the review of its implementation.

Operative paragraphs 6 and 7 outline the way in which the implementation of the outcomes of the Millennium Summit will be reviewed in the years to come.

In this draft resolution, Member States will decide that the convening of a high-level plenary meeting during the sixtieth session of the General Assembly for a comprehensive review of the

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Millennium Declaration as a whole will be considered during the next session. The review of the implementation of the development goals contained in the Millennium Declaration should be considered within the framework of the integrated and coordinated follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields.

I do hope that this draft resolution has the support of Member States and can be adopted.

I now give the floor to the representative of the Russian Federation, who will introduce draft resolution A/57/L.6/Rev.1.

Mr. Lavrov (Russian Federation) (*spoke in Russian*): On behalf of the delegations of Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, Brazil, China, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Georgia, India, Republic of Moldova, South Africa, Ukraine and my own country, the Russian Federation, I have the honour to introduce draft resolution A/57/L.6/Rev.1, entitled "Responding to global threats and challenges", for the consideration of the General Assembly.

Contemporary civilization is being faced nearly every minute with threats and challenges of the most varied kind, a whole range of which have become global in character, threatening people's lives and well-being and whole communities throughout the world. A graphic example of this is the worrying increase in the scale and brutality of international terrorism — as well as drug trafficking, transnational organized crime, environmental degradation, the spread of poverty, illiteracy, disease, the continuing acuteness of sustainable development as a whole and continuing bloody conflicts in various regions.

A successful response to such serious threats and challenges is possible only through combining the efforts of the entire international community. In an era of globalization and unprecedented increase in the interdependence of States, no one is in a position to shut themselves off from the increasing problems in the world.

In order to develop a collective response to these challenges, there are real prerequisites — a recognition by people of the dangers common to all, increased political action and interaction through legal instruments.

But the main thing is that the world community already has an experienced effective mechanism — the United Nations — which is capable of fulfilling the functions of a worldwide coordinating centre, since it possesses a unique legitimacy, universality, experience and potential. These characteristics are the main areas and methods for responding to new threats and challenges.

In essence, we are already agreed on the Millennium Declaration, endorsed by Heads of State or Government of United Nations Member States, and on the implementation of its goals. We need to take into account the constantly changing situation in world affairs, and we need to respond promptly to new problems arising along the way.

What is particularly important is that we always need to keep in focus all of the goals, without exception, of the Millennium Declaration, and to mobilize efforts in all components of the United Nations system and its Member States, regional organizations, civil society and the private sector by working persistently and collectively to find effective responses to new challenges and threats in the interconnection, without reducing the amount of attention paid to any of these problems.

That is the main thrust of the draft resolution introduced by the sponsors. It supports the steps already taken by the Secretary-General to achieve the aforementioned goals through the coordinated actions of the entire international community and encourages further efforts to ensure a genuinely comprehensive, integrated and complex response to new threats and challenges on the basis of the United Nations Charter.

I wish to draw particular attention to paragraph 2 of the draft resolution, by which the Secretary-General, in consultation with the heads of the agencies and organizations of the United Nations system, and taking into account the views of Member States and cooperating with various international organizations, would study possible ways to formulate, in the context of implementation of the Millennium Declaration, a multifaceted approach to the problem of the global threats and challenges of the twenty-first century. The Secretary-General would also be requested to include his observations on the corresponding issues in his report on the follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session.

The draft resolution was the subject of negotiations with all interested delegations and groups of States. We are grateful for the concrete proposals made to improve the text, which the sponsors took into account in the draft resolution before the Assembly. We count on its being adopted by consensus.

The President: The Assembly will now take decisions on draft resolutions A/57/L.6/Rev.1 and A/57/L.61.

We turn first to draft resolution A/57/L.61, entitled "Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit".

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/57/L.61.

Draft resolution A/57/L.61 was adopted (resolution 57/144).

The President: We now turn to draft resolution A/57/L.6/Rev.1, entitled "Responding to global threats and challenges".

I should like to announce that, since the publication of the draft resolution, Kyrgyzstan has become a co-sponsor of A/57/L.6/Rev.1.

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/57/L.6/Rev.1.

Draft resolution A/57/L.6/Rev.1 was adopted (resolution 57/145).

The President: Before giving the floor to speakers in explanation of vote, may I remind delegations that explanations of vote are limited to ten minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Ms. Menéndez (Spain) (*spoke in Spanish*): My delegation has taken the floor to speak in explanation of vote after the adoption of resolution 57/144, entitled "Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit".

Spain thanks the Secretary-General for the report contained in document A/57/270. At the same time, however, we have certain concerns about the contents of certain sections of the report, in particular with regard to the reference to ageing, which does not fully reflect the commitments undertaken by States Members in the course of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, held at Madrid in April this year. During that World Assembly, Member States unanimously adopted a Political Declaration and a Plan of Action aimed at guaranteeing the positive role that older persons can play in our societies.

At the same time, I should like to recall that the platform establishes important objectives and challenges in the field of development that unfortunately are not correctly reflected in the report. The platform contains specific guidance with regard to development that is absent from document A/57/270.

I also wish to emphasize the importance of gender considerations in United Nations documents. In that regard, Spain's position differs from the view of women as a vulnerable group of societies, as contained in the report. I should like to make clear the importance of integrating gender perspectives — an issue that is not correctly reflected in the report under consideration — into all reports.

Spain hopes that in the future, both issues — ageing and gender perspectives — will be taken into consideration, as is appropriate and necessary. Any follow-up to the Millennium Summit would be incomplete if it failed to refer to the commitments undertaken during the Second World Assembly on Ageing.

Mr. Durrani (Pakistan): I have taken the floor to explain Pakistan's position on resolution 57/145 entitled "Responding to global threats and challenges". My delegation supported the draft resolution (A/57/L.6/Rev.1) in view of our support for its objectives, which are consistent with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

Unfortunately, Pakistan was unable to participate in the discussion of the draft resolution before it was officially introduced. Had we had that opportunity, we should have wished to strengthen the draft resolution in certain respects. We feel that, in the present global environment, it was essential to include a reference to the peaceful settlement of disputes, in accordance with the provisions of Chapter VI of the Charter. Moreover, global threats can be effectively addressed in many parts of the world if there is a genuine commitment to the full and unreserved implementation of all relevant Security Council resolutions, as required by Article 25 of the Charter.

Secondly, Pakistan is committed to combating terrorism. Pakistan has been one of the principal victims of terrorist over the years, including during the

years when we supported the struggle of the people of Afghanistan for self-determination. Global threats also arise when the rights of peoples for freedom and human rights are violated. Therefore, we would have called for a reference in the resolution to the legitimacy of the struggle of peoples for self-determination.

If this matter comes up for deliberation next year, my delegation reserves the right to raise the concerns that I have just mentioned.

The President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 44.

Agenda item 21 (*continued*)

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance

Draft resolution (A/57/L.66)

(a) Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

Draft resolutions A/57/L.60, A/57/L.63, A/57/L.64

(b) Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions

Draft resolutions A/57/L.43/Rev.1, A/57/L.54, A/57/L.57, A/57/L.62, A/57/L.65

(c) Assistance to the Palestinian people

Draft resolution A/57/L.51

The President: Members will recall that the Assembly held the debate on agenda item 21 and its sub-items (a) to (c) at the 58th and 59th plenary meetings on 25 November 2002 and adopted five draft resolutions.

I now give the floor to the representative of the Congo to introduce draft resolution A/57/L.43/Rev.1.

Mr. Ikouebe (Congo) (*spoke in French*): I have the honour to take the floor, on behalf of the sponsors, to introduce draft resolution A/57/L.43/Rev.1, entitled "Special assistance for the economic recovery and reconstruction of the Democratic Republic of the Congo".

First of all, I wish to make two announcements. The first concerns the list of sponsors, to which should be added France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Portugal and Sweden. The second announcement concerns a slight modification in operative paragraph 5. After the word "soldiers", delete the following phrase: "contrary to international law".

I should like the General Assembly to adopt this draft resolution by consensus, as has been the case in previous years.

The text that is presented to the Assembly today follows the broad outline of the draft resolution adopted last year, because the grave crisis that is raging in the Democratic Republic of the Congo continues to have disastrous effects at the humanitarian level. Human development, therefore, remains one of the priorities of the leaders of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, who want to extricate their people from their precarious existence in poverty and famine.

However, modifications have been made to the text, particularly to take account of certain developments that are under way. It takes note of the signing of certain peace agreements that offer new opportunities for a return to peace, which the international community should welcome. It also welcomes the efforts made by the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to undertake courageous economic reforms. It highlights the need for urgent international economic assistance. Lastly, it makes an appeal to the international community for increased support to humanitarian activities in that country.

As we consider this draft resolution, it is important to keep in mind that the Democratic Republic of the Congo is a least developed country that has undergone grave economic crises that stem from, among other things, economic structural imbalances and a persistent, protracted war that has driven the population into precarious living conditions. The people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo have shown courage and endurance in the face of adverse uncertainty and deserve the support of the international community in order to benefit from the prospects of peace that are now present.

In this context, we welcome the recent adoption of a number of initiatives that indicate a mobilization to support the Democratic Republic of the Congo. I will mention just three of them. During a public meeting of the Security Council devoted to Central Africa on 20 October 2002, an appeal was made for increased assistance to the Democratic Republic of the Congo. On 4 December 2002, this country's main partners held another meeting in Paris — it included 13 countries and twelve agencies. Following that meeting, this country's partners solemnly undertook a financial commitment to contribute about $2.5 billion for its support. They also plan to release additional resources to support the multi-sectoral emergency programme of reconstruction and rehabilitation to help that war-torn country. Lastly, on 12 December, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations announced the launch of a project of road building and rehabilitation in the Democratic of the Congo as part of a programme to combat hunger and malnutrition, as the country has one of the highest malnutrition rates in the world. Therefore, the draft resolution before the General Assembly aims at strengthening the solidarity that is already wide-spread today. On behalf of all the donors I urge the Assembly to adopt it by consensus.

The Acting President: I give the floor to the representative of Denmark to introduce, on behalf of the European Union, draft resolutions A/57/L.51 and A/57/L.66 in one intervention.

Ms. Løj (Denmark): On behalf of the European Union and the co-sponsors, I have the honour of introducing the draft resolution entitled "Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel", contained in document A/57/L.66, and the draft resolution entitled "Assistance to the Palestinian people" contained in document A/57/L.51.

After the tabling of the draft resolution entitled "Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel", the following countries have joined the sponsors: Brazil, Canada, Cyprus, Madagascar, Slovakia, Slovenia, Republic of Moldova, and United Republic of Tanzania. With respect to the draft resolution on assistance to the Palestinian people, the following countries have joined the list of sponsors: Estonia, Gabon, Georgia, Japan, Senegal, Slovakia, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania and United States of America.

The safety and security of United Nations and all humanitarian personnel continue to be of utmost concern to the European Union and the sponsors of this resolution. We must all work to improve the situation of United Nations and humanitarian personnel so that they can safely and effectively assist people in need. This year's draft resolution contains some new development based on the Secretary-General's report on the safety and security of United Nations and humanitarian personnel. In the preambular paragraphs, the General Assembly expresses, inter alia, profound regret for the deaths of international and national personnel who were involved in the provision of humanitarian assistance. The Assembly strongly deplores the rising toll of casualties among such personnel.

In the operative paragraphs, the General Assembly expresses deep concern over the escalation of threats at an unprecedented rate against the safety and security of humanitarian and United Nations personnel and associated personnel in the past decades, and that the perpetrators of acts of violence seemingly operate with impunity. The General Assembly urges all States to take stronger action to ensure that any threat or act of violence committed against humanitarian and United Nations personnel and associated personnel on their territory is fully investigated, and ensure that the perpetrators of such acts are brought to justice in accordance to international and national law. The Assembly welcomes the appointment of a full-time United Nations Security Coordinator at the Assistant-Secretary-General level and reaffirms the need to further strengthen security coordination and management, while sustaining initiatives aimed at increasing the efficiency of the security management system.

I would like to thank all the delegations that participated in the negotiations on this important draft resolution. The European Union and the co-sponsors are of the hope that the draft resolution will this year again be adopted with consensus.

The draft resolution on assistance to the Palestinian people, contained in document A/57/L.51, reflects the outcome of constructive consultations with interested delegations. In the preambular paragraphs, it, inter alia, expresses great concern at the deterioration of the living conditions of the Palestinian people throughout the occupied territories, which constitutes a mounting humanitarian crisis. It notes the great

economic and social challenges facing the Palestinian people and is conscious of the urgent need for international assistance in this regard. Furthermore, it stresses the need for the full engagement of the United Nations in the process of building Palestinian institutions and providing broad assistance to the Palestinian people.

In the operative paragraphs, the draft resolution takes note of the report of the Secretary-General and the report of the Secretary-General's Personal Humanitarian Envoy on the humanitarian conditions and needs of the Palestinian people. Moreover, it urges member States, international financial institutions of the United Nations system, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations to extend, as rapidly and generously as possible, economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people, including emergency assistance to counter the impact of the current crisis. In this regard, the draft resolution calls upon the international donor community to expedite the delivery of pledged assistance and stresses the importance of ensuring free passage of aid and free movement of persons and goods.

Finally, the draft resolution requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session containing an assessment of the assistance received and the needs that are yet to be met. It is the hope of the co-sponsors that the draft resolution will find broad support, and that it will be adopted without a vote, as it has been in previous years.

The President: I give the floor to the representative of Yugoslavia to introduce draft resolution A/57/L.54.

Mrs. Lalić-Smajević (Yugoslavia): I have the honour to introduce to the General Assembly a draft resolution on humanitarian assistance to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. I am pleased to announce that, in addition to the countries listed in document A/57/L.54, Canada, Lithuania and Liechtenstein have become sponsors of the draft resolution.

Before proceeding, I should like to express my sincere gratitude to all the sponsors and delegations whose constructive participation and contribution resulted in the consensus text of the draft resolution.

I should also like to thank the Secretary-General for his valuable report, contained in document A/57/174, concerning humanitarian assistance to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

My delegation deeply appreciates the humanitarian assistance and rehabilitation support that has been rendered to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia by a number of States, particularly the major contributors, international agencies and organizations and non-governmental organizations, as well as the humanitarian assistance provided through the United Nations and its specialized agencies.

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia recognizes the need to profoundly restructure the economy of the country, and it has already mobilized its internal resources in order to overcome the circumstances of its dire starting position and to reform rapidly. The scale of the problems that we have inherited, however, is such that the process of reform and recovery will be very difficult. It will take time to set the country firmly on an accelerated development track. In the meantime, humanitarian assistance is still needed so as to address the widespread poverty and fragile basic services and to provide support for the largest population of refugees and displaced persons in Europe.

We note that there has been a decrease in humanitarian assistance in 2002 due to a shift in donor funding to humanitarian emergencies in other parts of the globe. However, given the enormous burden of the past, my country still requires significant short-term backing from the international community in order to complete the transition process from relief to development.

An important element of the present draft, based on the text of the consensus resolution from the fifty-sixth session of the General Assembly, is an appeal to the international community to support further the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in its efforts to ensure transition from emergency humanitarian assistance to the long-term rehabilitation, reconstruction and development of the country.

In this respect, it is especially important for the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia that Member States and international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations assist — financially and otherwise — the implementation of the national strategy for resolving the problems of refugees and internally displaced persons in Yugoslavia. The national strategy, which is integrated into the overall development strategy and reform programme of the

country, reflects our firm determination to offer assistance and concrete solutions to all refugees and internally displaced persons. It is a transparent and comprehensive policy aimed at helping refugees select the best decision regarding their future — either safe return to their homes or integration into the life of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

The draft resolution pays great attention to the issue of finding durable solutions to the problems of refugees, especially through voluntary repatriation and reintegration. In this context, the draft resolution stresses the importance of developing regional cooperation in the quest for solutions that can improve the difficult situation of the refugees.

The role of the United Nations and its specialized agencies is also emphasized in the draft resolution, and the Organization is requested to continue its efforts to assess humanitarian needs, in cooperation with the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the relevant international and regional organizations and bodies and interested States, with a view to ensuring effective links between relief and long-term assistance to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. Although there will be no United Nations consolidated humanitarian appeal for 2003, the importance of the coordination of humanitarian assistance in Yugoslavia has nevertheless been emphasized, inter alia, through the mechanisms of the United Nations Resident Coordinator system.

Finally, the Secretary-General is requested to prepare a report on humanitarian assistance to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia for consideration at the fifth-ninth session of the General Assembly.

In conclusion, let me express my sincere hope that the draft resolution will receive the broadest possible support and, as last year, that it will be adopted by consensus. In that way, it will help to accelerate the coordination of humanitarian assistance and broad international cooperation for the recovery of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

The President: I give the floor to the representative of Ethiopia to introduce draft resolution A/57/L.57.

Mr. Hussein (Ethiopia): I should like to announce that, since the publication of draft resolution A/57/L.57, the following countries have become sponsors: Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bhutan, Canada, Costa Rica, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, France, the Gambia, Ghana, Israel, Jordan, Liberia, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, South Africa and Spain.

On behalf of the Ethiopian delegation, I am pleased to introduce draft resolution A/57/L.57, entitled "Emergency humanitarian assistance to Ethiopia" under agenda item 21(b), "Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions".

Mr. Gallegos Chiriboga (Ecuador), Vice-President, took the Chair.

Over the past decade, my country, Ethiopia, has undertaken a series of political and economic reforms with a view to improving the humanitarian situation and ensuring sustainable development. We have also focused on the agricultural sector in order to address food insecurity. However, my country is now facing unprecedented drought. We are encouraged by the immediate willingness of Member States to sponsor the draft resolution. It is my fervent hope that the adoption of this draft resolution by consensus will pave the way for a strengthened and committed partnership between my country and the international community to meet the immediate humanitarian assistance needed and, over the long-term, for the integration of relief efforts with recovery and development.

The Acting President (*spoke in Spanish*): I call on the representative of Turkey to introduce draft resolution A/57/L.60.

Mr. Pamir (Turkey): It is my distinct pleasure to introduce the draft resolution entitled "Strengthening the effectiveness and coordination of international urban search and rescue assistance", which is before the plenary today, under agenda item 21. Sixty countries have sponsored this draft resolution, which we hope will be adopted by consensus.

Given their humanitarian nature, all 16 draft resolutions that have been presented to the Assembly under agenda item 21 are of great importance and particular significance. While they each have their own focus, their common denominator is a noble effort to alleviate human suffering in humanitarian emergencies.

By definition, humanitarian emergencies are bad and unwelcome news. However, they do have one aspect that is a source of hope for the future and that should not go unnoticed in the "fog of calamity" surrounding them. At such times, one can actually expect the international community to unite almost

automatically to reach out to those in need of help. As its title indicates, the draft resolution in question is geared towards that end. It aims to strengthen a specific and very crucial activity, namely urban search and rescue in time of disaster.

In his report entitled "International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development", the Secretary-General points out the disturbing upward trend in the occurrence and impact of natural disasters. The Secretary-General also underlines the fact that communities in many countries around the world are increasingly exposed to the risk of natural disasters by virtue of increasing urbanization.

Currently half of the world's population lives in cities, and, by the year 2030, this ratio is expected to go up to 60 per cent. This is one element that makes the content of this draft resolution particularly important. Another equally pertinent element is the proven fact that, in the aftermath of disasters, 98 to 99 per cent of the lives that are saved are saved in the first 48 to 72 hours. Therefore, speed, efficiency and coordination are of the essence when it comes to saving lives. This draft resolution aims to address precisely those issues by streamlining and ensuring efficiency in urban search and rescue operations.

In brief, saving lives is the main goal of this draft resolution, which is being submitted for the first time. Its nature is such that its significance can only increase in time.

As a country that has suffered from the tragic consequences of natural disasters, Turkey is a keen supporter of increased international cooperation in the countering of such emergencies. Furthermore — again through its own dealings with urban search and rescue teams from a range of countries — Turkey is acutely aware of the importance of making the best possible use of such teams, which, when deployed efficiently, can make the difference between life and death.

As recognized in the draft resolution, the Guidelines developed by the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group constitute a flexible and helpful reference tool for disaster preparedness and response efforts. Formulated on the basis of real-life experiences, they contain detailed checklists and guidance on technical urban search and rescue issues such as the marking of buildings, training standards, reception and departure procedures, and on-site coordination. They also include specific recommendations for both assisting and affected countries, as well as for the United Nations — all with the overarching goal of strengthening efficiency and coordination. All of these aspects of urban search and rescue, when implemented efficiently, can lead to extremely positive outcomes. Yet when there is no coordination in these areas, even the most resolute efforts may be to no avail.

Turkey believes that this draft resolution addresses key aspects of urban search and rescue and therefore considers it to be a step in the right direction. While Member States are the driving force behind the draft, it would not have been possible without the invaluable support of the United Nations Secretariat and particularly of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

I should like to conclude, therefore, by thanking the Emergency Relief Coordinator, Mr. Kenzo Oshima, for his help throughout this process.

The Acting President (*spoke in Spanish*): I give the floor to the representative of Liberia to introduce draft resolution A/57/L.62.

Mr. Sele (Liberia): At the outset, I wish to thank Ambassador Hubert Wurth, Permanent Representative of Luxembourg, for his skilful leadership in coordinating the informal consultations held on the humanitarian draft resolutions submitted under agenda item 21. We also commend the Secretariat for its important contribution to this process.

Since the inception of the Liberian civil crisis and in its aftermath, the General Assembly has adopted a resolution each year calling for international assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Liberia. It is in this context that, on behalf of the sponsors, I will introduce draft resolution A/57/L.62, entitled "Assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Liberia".

I should like to announce that, since the publication of the draft resolution, the following countries have become sponsors of A/57/L.62: Austria, Gabon, Germany, Greece, France, Ireland, Mali, Madagascar, Morocco, Mozambique, the Netherlands and Togo.

The text before the Assembly is the product of intensive negotiations conducted by interested delegations, to which we are immensely grateful.

Basically, the draft resolution calls upon Member States and the international community at large to respond to the humanitarian and development needs of Liberia, which have serious implications for security and economic stability within the subregion. Among other things, the Government of Liberia is urged to take the necessary steps to facilitate the peace- building process in Liberia and to promote regional security and socio-economic development.

The enormity of the task of rebuilding the country and the inability of the Government to generate the requisite financial resources at home and abroad cannot be overemphasized. Clearly, the imposition by the Security Council in May 2001 of selective sanctions has been less than helpful in the peace-building enterprise in Liberia. In spite of the programmes and policies initiated by the Government, problems persist. Inadequate funding is mostly responsible for the slow pace of recovery, including the lack of basic necessities such as electricity, safe drinking water and adequate health care for the majority of the population. Moreover, the problems of new Liberian refugees and internally displaced persons are additional pressing humanitarian concerns which require urgent attention.

In the light of these hard realities, I am obliged to appeal to this body, on behalf of my compatriots, not to give up on Liberia. In particular, I would ask the donor community to overcome its indifference and to seek to adopt a positive and humane approach to the Liberian situation. As members of the human family, Liberians cannot continue to be denied the goodwill and support of the international community during this difficult period of their national existence. I therefore request that this draft resolution be adopted unanimously by the Assembly.

The Acting President *(spoke in Spanish)*: I call on the representative of Venezuela to introduce draft resolution A/57/L.63.

Ms. López (Venezuela): I have the honour to present, on behalf of the Group of 77 and other sponsors, draft resolution A/57/L.63 entitled "International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development." I wish to thank all delegations who participated in the informal discussions on the text of the resolution. We appreciate the positive and constructive atmosphere in which the discussions were held.

Given the length of the resolution I will not cover each paragraph, but I will flag a few issues that are mentioned in the resolution. Both the preambular and the operative parts reaffirm, inter alia, the guiding principles of humanitarian assistance that are contained in the annex of General Assembly resolution 46/182. The draft resolution stresses the importance of strengthening cooperation in the provision of humanitarian assistance, particularly through the effective use of the multilateral mechanisms, including the provision of adequate resources.

One of the new elements in the resolution is to encourage donors to consider the importance of ensuring that assistance for higher profile natural disasters does not come at the expense of those natural disasters with a relatively lower profile. Another element emphasizes the importance of efforts to increase the overall level of assistance.

The draft resolution also requests the Secretary-General to examine the overall situation regarding the mobilization of resources for responding to natural disasters and to make concrete recommendations to improve the international response.

The reference in the tenth preambular paragraph to a resolution of the current General Assembly on international urban search and rescue assistance is to the resolution contained in A/57/L.60.

In addition to the delegations listed in A/57/L.63, other delegations have joined as sponsors. It is our hope that the resolution can, as in previous years, be adopted by consensus.

The Acting President *(spoke in Spanish)*: I call on the representative of Sweden to introduce draft resolution A/57/L.64.

Mr. Schori (Sweden): I have the honour to introduce, on behalf of the sponsors, a draft resolution on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations contained in document A/57/L.64. Since the publication of the draft resolution before the Assembly, the following countries have also become sponsors: Brazil, Croatia, Ecuador, Estonia, Hungary, Lesotho, Nepal, Nicaragua, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Senegal, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the United Republic of Tanzania.

Valuable proposals were made during several informal consultations for improvement of the text and

agreement was reached on all paragraphs. My delegation would like to thank the sponsors and other delegations for the good and constructive spirit of cooperation and partnership in which the consultations were held. The draft resolution begins by recalling the landmark resolution 46/182, which of course still guides the work of the United Nations in the humanitarian field. It goes on to take note of the reports of the Secretary-General and it stresses the need to address further the issues of funding, coordination and strategic planning in the context of natural disasters and complex emergencies, particularly in the transition between relief and development activities, and the need to mobilize adequate levels of financing for emergency humanitarian assistance.

The draft resolution addresses, among other things, two issues of recent concern. First, the aggravating effects that major diseases, in particular the HIV/AIDS pandemic, cause in the context of natural disasters and complex emergencies. There is a request to the Secretary-General to address ways and means for strengthening the humanitarian response and for the mobilization of greater resources in this regard. Secondly, the draft resolution outlines efforts to develop the plan of action on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse in humanitarian crises, and stresses the importance of the timely implementation of this plan.

The draft resolution commends the Emergency Relief Coordinator and his staff for their activities in emergency information management and stresses that national authorities, relief agencies and other relevant actors need to continue to improve the sharing of relevant information related to natural disasters and complex emergencies. It emphasizes that coordination of humanitarian assistance within the United Nations system is a mandate of the Secretary-General and that the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs should benefit from adequate and more predictable funding. It invites the Economic and Social Council to continue to consider ways to enhance further the humanitarian affairs segment of future sessions of the Council, including through the adoption of negotiated outcomes of its deliberations. The draft resolution in its final paragraph requests the Secretary-General to report to the next session of the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, on progress made in strengthening the coordination of the United Nations humanitarian assistance.

On a final note I would like to express my gratitude to my colleague, Ambassador Hubert Wurth for his able chairmanship and guidance during the informal consultations on this agenda item. My delegation and other sponsors hope that the draft resolution contained in this document can be adopted by consensus.

The Acting President *(spoke in Spanish)*: I call on the representative of Somalia to introduce draft resolution A/57/L.65.

Mr. Hashi (Somalia): I take the floor to introduce, on behalf of its sponsors, draft resolution A/57/L.65 entitled "Assistance for humanitarian relief and the economic and social rehabilitation of Somalia". I should like to announce that, since the publication of the draft resolution, the following countries have also become sponsors of this draft resolution: Austria, Azerbaijan, Burkina Faso, France, Germany, Greece, India, Ireland, Italy, Jordan and Libya.

I ask the General Assembly to adopt this draft resolution on a consensus basis as was done last year. I wish to emphasize that this draft resolution before you is about humanitarian assistance to Somalia and the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Somalia. Somalia urgently needs this assistance, since we have had a devastating civil war going on in Somalia for a long time.

I wish also to point out that the current draft resolution is a continuation of last year's resolution passed by the General Assembly. It calls for all to contribute to humanitarian assistance for Somalia. The draft resolution also encourages the current national reconciliation process in Eldoret, Kenya, in which nearly all stakeholders in the Somalia conflict are participating. The success of this conference will enable Somalia to move from relief to rehabilitation and reconstruction of the country. The draft resolution also draws attention to the current drought in the Horn of Africa, and in particular to those areas in Somalia that are affected, and urges the international community, as an urgent matter, to provide humanitarian assistance and relief to the Somali people, so as to alleviate in particular the consequences of the prevailing drought. The draft resolution further urges all States and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to assist the Somali people in embarking on the rehabilitation of basic social and economic services, as well as institution-building aimed at the

restoration of the structures of civil governance throughout Somalia. The draft also welcomes agreements and declarations recently signed by the participants at the Somali National Reconciliation Conference at Eldoret, Kenya.

The draft has the sponsorship of 47 countries and we hope that the passage of this draft resolution will add positively to the momentum of peace and reconciliation and assist our rehabilitation.

I hope this draft resolution will be adopted on a consensus basis, as it was last year.

The Acting President *(spoke in Spanish)*: We shall now consider draft resolutions A/57/L.43/Rev.1, as orally revised, A/57/L.51, A/57/L.54, A/57/L.57, A/57/L.60, A/57/L.62, A/57/L.63, A/57/L.64, A/57/L.65 and A/57/L.66.

Before giving the floor to speakers in explanation of vote before the vote, may I remind the delegations that explanations of vote are limited to ten minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

I now call on the representative of the United States for an explanation of vote before the vote.

Mr. Scott (United States): My delegation has two explanations to give, one on draft resolution A/57/L.57 and one on draft resolution A/57/L.60. Concerning the draft resolution on emergency humanitarian assistance to Ethiopia, while the United States Government joins the consensus on this draft resolution, we note there is a recurrent drought affecting the entire Horn of Africa. Thus, if this topic comes up again next year, it would, in our view, be more appropriate to handle it under the umbrella of a regional resolution. The United States Government is gravely concerned by the magnitude of the current drought, which has affected up to 18 million people over the last two years, and by the serious crop failures in many parts of the region. We also have serious concerns that the prevailing dire humanitarian situation in the region will have long-term socio-economic and environmental impacts. We note in this context the Secretary-General's decision to eliminate food insecurity in the Horn of Africa over a long-term period.

With these points in mind, the United States recommends that the international community take into account the entire region in their humanitarian planning. The United States Government also welcomes the initiative of the Secretary-General to address the recurrent regional drought on a long-term basis, calls for the implementation of that initiative and requests that the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs continue considering ways to further enhance the mobilization of emergency relief assistance.

Concerning draft resolution A/57/L.60 entitled "Strengthening the effectiveness and coordination of international urban search and rescue assistance", the United States Government is pleased to co-sponsor this important resolution and, by doing so, to support the process of the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG). The Government of the United States also wishes to thank the Government of Turkey for its outstanding leadership in this matter, as well the Geneva staff of the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs. The INSARAG process has been developed in order to save lives, to speed qualified aid to victims and to make sure that rescue teams are fully equipped and protected, while also respecting the national sovereignty of nations.

With this in mind, the United States Government urges nations subject to disasters to participate in the INSARAG discussions and to cooperate with each other and the United Nations to the greatest extent possible.

The Acting President *(spoke in Spanish)*: I now call on the representative of Israel for an explanation of vote before the vote.

Mr. Govrin (Israel): My explanation of vote refers to the draft resolution on assistance to the Palestinian people.

Israel shares the concern of the international community over the deterioration in the humanitarian situation in the region. Violence and terrorism, by their very nature, entail hardship for the civilian population. Israeli and Palestinian civilians have both endured tremendous pain and suffering as a consequence of the upsurge in terrorism that began in September 2000. Bringing this suffering to an end and providing for the security and prosperity of all the peoples in the region are critical components of any successful peace initiative and is therefore a prime objective of Israeli policy.

In this respect, Israel welcomes the efforts of Member States and of international agencies to relieve the suffering of innocent civilians. Israel has done its

utmost to cooperate with international actors in an effort to facilitate their humanitarian work aimed at improving the living conditions of Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Despite the unrelenting threat of terrorism that Israel confronts on a daily basis, we have consistently tried to permit the flow of food, medicine, humanitarian assistance and other necessities to the greatest extent possible.

While Israel has tried, and will continue to try, to facilitate humanitarian assistance to the greatest extent possible, Palestinian terrorists have consistently exploited any Israeli attempt to ease the conditions of the Palestinian people. Terrorists have viewed measures intended to increase freedom of movement as opportunities to infiltrate Israeli cities. They have used the immunity granted to medical and humanitarian vehicles to smuggle weapons and explosives. It is clear from these examples that terrorists pose a threat not only to those they target, but also to those they hide behind.

It is therefore entirely disingenuous to suggest, as certain speakers have, that Israeli policies are the source of the hardships facing the Palestinian people.

As is obvious to anyone willing to make an honest assessment of Palestinian economic and social development over the past decade, in periods in which the Palestinian leadership was actively confronting terrorist organizations and engaging in serious negotiations with Israel, the living conditions of the Palestinian people steadily improved. It was only with the breakdown of the peace process and the Palestinian resort to a deliberate campaign of terrorism aimed at the citizens of Israel that conditions began to decline.

While it is politically useful for the Palestinians to place the blame for their current predicament solely on Israel's shoulders, such allegations will do little to offer any relief to Palestinian civilians that do not participate in acts of terror. If the international community is serious about alleviating the humanitarian plight of the Palestinian people, the single most important thing it can do is to insist that the Palestinian leadership end its campaign of violence, terror and incitement, as called for in Security Council resolutions.

I wish to emphasize once again that while Israel is joining the consensus on this draft resolution out of our concern for the Palestinian people, Israel's participation should not be construed as implying any position regarding the present status of the territories referred to as "the occupied territory". This term is not used in the agreements between the parties, nor does it reflect, in Israel's view, the legal status of the disputed territory in the West Bank and Gaza which, pursuant to signed agreements, are a matter to be directly negotiated between the two sides.

We remain hopeful that despite the tension that persists in the region, we will soon be able to return to a process of negotiations aimed at achieving a lasting political settlement for the benefit of all the peoples of the region.

The Acting President (*spoke in Spanish*): The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolutions A/57/L.43/Rev.1, as orally revised, A/57/L.51, A/57/L.54, A/57/L.57, A/57/L.60, A/57/L.62, A/57/L.63, A/57/L.64, A/57/L.65 and A/57/L.66.

We turn first to draft resolution A/57/L.43/Rev.1, as orally revised, entitled "Special assistance for the economic recovery and reconstruction of the Democratic Republic of the Congo". I wish to inform the Assembly that the following countries have joined the list of sponsors of the draft resolution: Finland, Germany and Mali.

May I take it that the General Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/57/L.43/Rev.1, as orally revised?

Draft resolution A/57/L.43/Rev.1, as orally revised, was adopted (resolution 57/146).

The Acting President (*spoke in Spanish*): Draft resolution A/57/L.51 is entitled "Assistance to the Palestinian people". The following countries have joined the list of sponsors of the draft resolution: Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Gambia, Mali, Mozambique and Niger.

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/57/L.51?

Draft resolution A/57/L.51 was adopted (resolution 57/147).

The Acting President (*spoke in Spanish*): Draft resolution A/57/L.54 is entitled "Humanitarian assistance to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia". The following country has joined the list of sponsors of the draft resolution: Cuba.

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/57/L.54?

Draft resolution A/57/L.54 was adopted (resolution 57/148).

The Acting President (*spoke in Spanish*): Draft resolution A/57/L.57 is entitled "Emergency humanitarian assistance to Ethiopia". The following countries have joined the list of sponsors of the draft resolution: Armenia, Belgium, Gabon, Kuwait, Mali and Turkey.

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/57/L.57?

Draft resolution A/57/L.57 was adopted (resolution 57/149).

The Acting President (*spoke in Spanish*): Draft resolution A/57/L.60 is entitled "Strengthening the effectiveness and coordination of international urban search and rescue assistance". The following countries have joined the list of sponsors: Bangladesh, Brazil, France, Gabon, Ireland, Israel, Madagascar and Tanzania.

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/57/L.60?

Draft resolution A/57/L.60 was adopted (resolution 57/150).

The Acting President (*spoke in Spanish*): Draft resolution A/57/L.62 is entitled "Assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Liberia". The following countries have joined the list of sponsors of the draft resolution: Belgium and Italy.

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/57/L.62?

Draft resolution A/57/L.62 was adopted (resolution 57/151).

The Acting President (*spoke in Spanish*): Draft resolution A/57/L.63 is entitled "International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development". The following countries have joined the list of sponsors of the draft resolution: Austria, Belgium, Brazil Ecuador, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Madagascar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Portugal, Romania, Sweden, Tajikistan, Tanzania and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/57/L.63?

Draft resolution A/57/L.63 was adopted (resolution 57/152).

The Acting President (*spoke in Spanish*): Draft resolution A/57/L.64 is entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations". The following country has joined the list of sponsors of the draft resolution: Madagascar.

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/57/L.64?

Draft resolution A/57/L.64 was adopted (resolution 57/153).

The Acting President (*spoke in Spanish*): Draft resolution A/57/L.65 is entitled "Assistance for humanitarian relief and the economic and social rehabilitation of Somalia". The following countries have joined the list of sponsors of the draft resolution: Bangladesh, Belgium, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Niger and Syria. May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/57/L.65?

Draft resolution A/57/L.65 was adopted (resolution 57/154).

The Acting President *(spoke in Spanish)*: Draft resolution A/57/L.66 is entitled "Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel". Additional sponsors are Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Colombia, Croatia, Estonia, Gabon, Gambia, Honduras, Latvia, Lithuania, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tajikistan, Ukraine.

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/57/L.66?

Draft resolution A/57/L.66 was adopted (resolution 57/155).

The Acting President *(spoke in Spanish)*: Before giving the floor to speakers in explanation of vote after the adoption of the draft resolutions, may I remind delegations that explanations of vote are limited to ten minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Mr. Amer (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) *(spoke in Arabic)*: My delegation associated itself with the general consensus regarding the adoption of draft resolution A/57/L.66 on the safety and security of

humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel. However, our position should not be interpreted as agreeing to what is contained in operative paragraph 14 of that resolution.

The Acting President *(spoke in Spanish)*: We have heard the last speaker in the explanation of vote of the adoption.

I should like to take this opportunity to thank Ambassador Wurth of Luxembourg, on behalf of the General Assembly, for undertaking the task of holding consultations and negotiations on the resolutions adopted on this agenda item.

Mr. Hussein (Ethiopia): The adoption by consensus of the draft resolution for emergency humanitarian assistance to Ethiopia under agenda item 21 (b), "Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions", has a significant message to my people and Government. I am grateful to note that Ethiopia enjoys the full support of Member States.

In this regard, I would like to thank the delegation of Denmark, in its capacity as the President of the European Union, for its utmost contribution during the informal consultations. Likewise, I would like to thank the delegations of the United States, the Russian Federation, India, China, Qatar and of the Member States of the Arab region and the African Union. I would also like to thank the secretariat of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs for their valuable assistance.

It would be remiss of me if I failed to mention the contribution of Ambassador Hubert Wurth, the Permanent Representative of Luxembourg, for his able leadership in coordinating this resolution. I am fully confident that it will be fully implemented.

Ms. Abdelhady-Nasser (Palestine): To begin, I wish to convey my delegation's appreciation with regard to the adoption by consensus of the resolution on assistance to the Palestinian people. Emergency economic and humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people is indeed a matter of urgency for addressing the dire humanitarian crisis that has taken root in the occupied Palestinian territory.

The root cause of this humanitarian crisis is the Israeli policies and practices being imposed on the Palestinian people under occupation. The severe decline in the socio-economic conditions of the Palestinian people is fundamentally a result of an oppressive occupation now in its thirty-fifth year. For more than 35 years, the occupying Power has prevented the socio-economic development and progress of the population under its occupation. Since September, with the escalation of the Israeli military attacks against Palestinian cities, towns and villages and refugee camps, development has not only been halted, it has been destroyed.

Israeli policies and practices of collective punishment against the Palestinian people, including the imposition of the severest restrictions on the freedom of movement of persons and goods — including humanitarian and medical help, which the Israeli Government purports to cooperate with and facilitate — have severely and detrimentally impacted all facets of Palestinian life — economic, social, political, health, educational and cultural.

It is thus Israel's policies and practices in imposing its occupation that are the root source of the humanitarian suffering in the occupied Palestinian territory. While we are always grateful for the assistance of the international community in addressing the humanitarian needs of our people, we do at the same time reaffirm the need to address the root source of this humanitarian crisis in all its aspects.

The Acting President *(spoke in Spanish)*: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-items (a) and (c) of agenda item 21?

It was so decided.

The Acting President (*spoke in Spanish*): The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of sub-item (b) of agenda item 21.

Agenda item 22 (*continued*)

Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations

Draft resolution (A/57/L.23/Rev.1)

(d) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe

Draft resolution A/57/L.55/Rev.1

(n) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States

Draft resolution A/57/L.55/Rev.1

The Acting President *(spoke in Spanish)*: Members will recall that the Assembly held a debate on agenda item 22 and its sub-items (a) to (s) at its 53rd to 56th plenary meetings, on 20 and 21 November. In this connection, the Assembly has before it two draft resolutions, A/57/L.23/Rev.1 and A/57/L.55/Rev.1.

I now give the floor to the representative of Grenada to introduce draft resolution A/57/L.55/Rev.1.

Mr. Stanislaus (Grenada): The necessary changes having been made — *mutatis mutandis* — I have the honour to introduce, on behalf of all the sponsors, draft resolution A/57/L.55/Rev.1, entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States". I should like to announce that, since the publication of the draft resolution, Peru has also become a sponsor.

The growing interconnectedness and interdependence of economies and societies, brought about by the rapid rise in information and communication technologies, make cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations, such as the Organization of American States (OAS), even more necessary and desirable.

The English poet and clergyman, John Donne (1572-1631), was not far from the mark when he wrote his famous saying in old English: "No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main ...". (*Meditation XVII*)

At that time, he was referring to the relationship between England and the continent, which by present-day measurement was a minuscule part of today's known world. The point Donne was making was that what happens to each of us affects all of us. How true of the global village in which we now live.

The draft resolution lists the areas of activities in which the United Nations and the OAS have been cooperating during the past biennium 2001-2002. Some ongoing areas of cooperation cover a wide range, including sustainable development; trade, investment, technology and entrepreneurial development; drug control; promotion and protection of human rights and democratic rights; and education and health.

I would like to highlight three specific areas mentioned in the draft resolution. The first area is our grave concern with the spread of the HIV/AIDS pandemic in the region, and indeed in the entire world. The draft resolution stresses the need for increased financial resources and affordable drugs; but there are other important factors in the fight against this menace, especially in the area of education. And here I would like to commend the very simple, but effective slogan provided by the UNAIDS office at Headquarters — namely, the ABC of AIDS prevention and care. A stands for Abstinence, B stands for Be faithful, and C stands for Condomize.

My second point relates to Haiti. The United Nations/OAS International Civilian Support Mission in Haiti completed its mandate in March 2001. We now have, since June 2002, the OAS Special Mission for Strengthening Democracy in Haiti, as well as the continuing involvement of the Group of Friends in support of mediation efforts in Haiti. While we welcome both these efforts, we believe that the situation in Haiti requires more positive and sustained assistance from the international community, encompassing a wide spectrum of activities dedicated to improving the economic, social, juridical and administrative structures in Haiti.

My third point relates to the convening of a special conference on security in Mexico City in May 2003. A number of preparatory meetings will take place before the conference, and we are looking forward to a successful conference from which specific recommendations will be made, taking into account recent issues and developments, especially in the aftermath of 9/11.

The draft resolution seeks the furtherance of cooperation and collaboration between the United Nations and the OAS, as contained in the Secretary General's report (document A/57/267). It involves United Nations bodies and agencies in the promotion and enhancement of OAS activities.

Thus, the sponsors express the hope that this draft resolution will be adopted by consensus.

The Acting President *(spoke in Spanish)*: We shall now proceed to consider draft resolutions A/57/L.23/Rev.1 and A/57/L.55/Rev.1.

Before giving the floor to speakers in explanation of vote before the vote, may I remind delegations that

explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Mr. Ragab (Egypt): It is customary for the United Nations General Assembly to adopt annually a number of resolutions related to the cooperation between the United Nations and certain regional organizations, among which is the draft resolution this body is about to consider today.

Throughout the years, these resolutions continue to be characterized by their generous scope of reference and language. However, the authors of this year's draft resolution contained in document A/57/L.23/Rev.1, entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe", have deviated from such practice by choosing to introduce the controversial reference to the death penalty, explicitly, in operative paragraph 6, and, implicitly, in operative paragraph 12. In a resolute effort to bridge the differences and achieve consensus on the aforementioned draft resolution, the Permanent Mission of Egypt to the United Nations, along with a number of other interested and concerned delegations, clearly voiced these concerns to the sponsors of the resolution during the informal consultations conducted under the able leadership of His Excellency the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Malta.

The Permanent Mission of Egypt to the United Nations has always been supportive of all resolutions related to cooperation between the United Nations and other regional organizations. Such resolutions enhance the prospects of international cooperation and coordination between different bodies and organizations and further help in the achievement of the principles and objectives of the United Nations Charter. Yet, the inclusion of controversial concepts into a resolution otherwise adopted by consensus has resulted in a difference of opinion when considering the different interpretations of certain paragraphs.

Thus, the Permanent Mission of Egypt to the United Nations is not in a position to join consensus on this draft resolution and has called for a separate vote on both operative paragraphs 6 and 12.

It is worth noting that the draft resolution contains other paragraphs that constitute additional difficulties, such as the fourth preambular paragraph, which stresses "the importance of adherence to the standards and principles of the Council of Europe", while not specifying the countries concerned with the jurisdiction of such a paragraph.

In conclusion, our call for a separate vote on certain paragraphs should not be perceived as undermining the principle objective of the draft resolution: cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe. The Council of Europe is an organization whose contributions to international efforts and endeavours we regard with the highest esteem and appreciation.

Mr. Mahbubani (Singapore): At the outset, let me state that Singapore fully supports cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations; certainly, we support cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe. Hence, we deeply regret the fact we have had to call for a vote on the draft resolution contained in document A/57/L.23/Rev.1.

We are doing so because we are deeply troubled by attempts to slip in contentious issues under the innocuous guise of a draft resolution that is intended to focus on cooperation with the United Nations. The fundamental principle that the General Assembly should work under is that we should not include non-consensual elements in a consensual draft resolution. There is clearly no international consensus on the issue of the death penalty.

Operative paragraph 6 — as the representative of Egypt pointed out, speaking just before me — refers to Protocol No. 13 to the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, which is focused on the abolition of the death penalty in all circumstances.

We are even more troubled by operative paragraph 12, even though it looks harmless. It merely takes note of the "Guidelines on Human Rights and the Fight against Terrorism". However, chapter X of the "Guidelines" state that

> "under no circumstances may a person convicted of terrorist activities be sentenced to the death penalty; in the event of such a sentence being imposed, it may not be carried out".

This is clearly unacceptable to us. Terrorists who kill hundreds or thousands of people should not be exempt from the penalty that applies to other criminals. Our fear as we look at this draft resolution is that there may well be other controversial elements hidden in it that

we, as a small delegation, are in some ways ill-equipped to detect. For that reason, we want to thank the delegation of the large country that drew our attention to chapter X of the "Guidelines" referred to in paragraph 12.

We also recognize that the main sponsors have attempted to address our concerns by proposing that a neutral term be used, such as the words "takes note". We appreciate the efforts made by the sponsors to take our concerns on board. They have argued that "takes note" is a neutral term that connotes neither approval nor disapproval of these paragraphs.

In response, we would like to make two points. First, like the representative of Egypt, I would once again like to draw the Assembly's attention to the fourth preambular paragraph, which reads:

> "Stressing the importance of adherence to the standards and principles of the Council of Europe and its contribution to the solution of conflicts throughout the whole of Europe".

It is strange that we, the 191 Member States, should be called upon to adhere to the standards and principles of the Council of Europe. We respect its standards and principles, but we have our own, too. Indeed, were it not for the fact that this particular clause was included in a resolution adopted by consensus last year, we would also have objected to the paragraph this year. But the fact that this preambular paragraph exists and is linked to operative paragraphs 6 and 12 means that we can no longer accept even the phrases "notes" and "takes note" included in those paragraphs.

The second point is that "takes note" is unacceptable to us precisely because it is neutral. We actually cannot merely take note because we would have to take note with disapproval of the elements contained in paragraphs 6 and 12.

Let me also mention here in passing that we regret the fact that the draft resolution on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe is growing longer and longer each year. Two years ago, there were 11 operative paragraphs in the resolution on this item. This year, there are 24 — more than double the number when this item first appeared on the agenda two years ago. We would therefore respectfully like to suggest that next year, to avoid a repetition of the unfortunate situation we are in today, we revert to the usual practice and adopt a short and sharp resolution which focuses only on the issues of cooperation and does not include any non-consensual elements.

This year, unfortunately, as the draft resolution contains elements which are not germane to cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe and which reflect positions that are contrary to our national point of view, we will have no choice but to vote against operative paragraphs 6 and 12. Should those paragraphs remain in the text, we will abstain in the voting on the whole draft resolution. Any vote in favour of the draft resolution would amount to a dishonest stand on our part, which we are unable to take on such important issues as the death penalty.

We would like to state for the record that Singapore cannot and will not join consensus on any draft resolution that refers to the death penalty issue, no matter how indirectly it is done.

Ms. Miller (Jamaica): My delegation is well aware of the important role that has been played by the Council of Europe in a number of areas of concern to the mandate of the United Nations. We therefore fully support ongoing cooperation between both organizations.

While, in previous years, Jamaica has been pleased to join consensus on the resolution on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe, we regret that we will be unable to join in any consensus on this occasion, in view of the inclusion of elements which fail to command the support of some Member States, including my own. Jamaica is particularly concerned with the reference in paragraph 6 to Protocol 13 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms concerning the abolition of the death penalty. While we appreciate the attempts to amend the original language of the draft, which highlighted the support of the Council for the abolition of the death penalty worldwide, we would have preferred if the sponsors of the draft had withdrawn all references to the death penalty in paragraph 6 and refrained from including in a traditionally consensual United Nations draft resolution issues internal to the Council of Europe and which have neither a clear bearing on cooperation with the United Nations system nor consensus within the Organization's membership.

The General Assembly need not be reminded that that the laws of a number of States Members of this

Organization still provide for the death penalty, which is recognized as a legitimate and constitutionally sanctioned penalty for the most severe crimes. It must therefore not be expected that these States should collectively endorse a draft resolution which contains divisive and non-consensual elements that imply a singular lack of appreciation for their judicial and legislative processes, developed and applied in compliance with their international legal obligations.

We believe that the principles of the sovereignty and equality of States under the Charter would dictate that each State be respected in the legitimate exercise of its domestic jurisdiction in matters of criminal law. Each State should therefore be entitled to take steps in accordance with international norms which it deems necessary to protect its citizens in the context of its social, cultural and economic realities.

While Jamaica will vote in favour of paragraph 12 — since, in our view, it cannot be presumed to be prescriptive and was not exhortatory in its original intent — we will be forced to vote against paragraph 6 and will abstain in the voting on the draft resolution as a whole.

Mr. Marsh (United States of America): Like previous speakers who have so ably described the situation in which they find themselves, the United States is unable to join the consensus on this draft resolution. I should like to refer to three operative paragraphs.

With reference to operative paragraph 4, the United States seeks a position of abstention. The Rome Statute, and indeed the International Criminal Court emanating from it, are matters that we consider to be controversial. Thus, the United States, together with the majority of Members of the General Assembly, have not ratified the Statute. The implication of endorsement in that paragraph is therefore an overstatement, not representing a consensual position of United Nations Members.

Concerning operative paragraph 6, because the United States has steadfastly supported both the Council of Europe and the principle of United Nations cooperation with that body, it is particularly disappointing to find that the basically simple intent of the draft resolution has become distorted. Any attempt to make this text into a vehicle for advocacy of narrower objectives must not prevail. Abolition of capital punishment may be an ultimate goal worthy of attention, but this draft resolution is not the place for it. Instead, each State may consider the matter for itself, in accordance with its own constitutional processes. It is not the place of the United Nations to commend or to condemn activities of the Council of Europe in this highly controversial field, nor may a resolution that is tantamount to a directive addressed to the United Nations Secretariat prescribe its cooperation in a field unacceptable to many Member States. The United States will vote against this paragraph and urges its fellow members of the General Assembly to do so as well.

Finally, with reference to operative paragraph 12, the reasoning that impels the United States to vote against operative paragraph 6 reinforces the conviction that we should vote "no" in this case. Let us act now to eliminate this reference to capital punishment, a subject that has been in deep dispute within the General Assembly for the past several years.

Mr. Cheah Sam Kip (Malaysia): Under normal circumstances, Malaysia would support the draft resolution on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe. We have always believed in the forging of cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations. Such cooperation attests to the importance that regional organizations attach to the United Nations and to its centrality in multilateralism.

Although the draft resolution has many positive elements, Malaysia finds difficulty in supporting it as a whole. We are particularly concerned at the implications of operative paragraphs 6 and 12, which pertain to the death penalty. We are of the firm conviction that States have the sovereign right to determine their own criminal justice systems and to enact their own laws concerning punishment. Malaysia has laws on capital punishment. We believe that these two operative paragraphs would be inconsistent with Malaysia's criminal justice system. Therefore, Malaysia will vote against the two operative paragraphs and will abstain from voting on the draft resolution as a whole.

Mr. Kanu (Sierra Leone): Sierra Leone attaches great importance to cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations. It is undeniable that regional organizations play an extremely significant role in the maintenance of international peace and security, in conformity with the principles and purposes of the United Nations. In the light of that

fact, Sierra Leone views cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe as very important.

In the past, Sierra Leone has gone along with the consensus on draft resolutions regarding cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe. Sierra Leone views such cooperation as very important in the fulfilment of the principles and purposes of the United Nations. This year, like previous speakers, we find it difficult to go along with the consensus on this resolution. Sierra Leone still has provisions for capital punishment in its laws. Consequently, we find it difficult to support operative paragraphs 6 and 12 of the draft resolution, which call explicitly and implicitly for the abolition of the death penalty.

It is argued by some that noting this aspect of the draft resolution — operative paragraph 12 — should not create any problems. That may be true with regard to a non-controversial draft resolution; noting a position may not be problematic. But in the case of a draft resolution of this nature, which has certain controversial provisions, "noting" may be tantamount to acquiescence. For that reason, Sierra Leone will find it difficult to go along with the consensus. We will vote against operative paragraphs 6 and 12. With regard to the draft resolution as a whole, we will find it difficult to support it; therefore, we will abstain.

Mr. Sinaga (Indonesia): My delegation would like to recall that Indonesia has always fully supported cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe. We observe with regret, however, that this draft resolution is not being adopted by consensus this year, owing largely to the inclusion of new elements.

As a result of the informal consultations generously held by the representative of Malta, my delegation can understand the argument behind the inclusion of a provision recognizing the legal developments that took place in Europe this year. I should like to refer to operative paragraph 6, which reads: "Notes the opening for signature on 3 May 2002 in Vilnius of 'Protocol No. 13 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms'...". In that respect, the paragraph is not controversial. But the substance of Protocol No. 13 concerns "the abolition of the death penalty under all circumstances". I think that is the beginning of the controversy, because the death penalty is still applied in many States.

While it supports cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe, my delegation will abstain from voting on the draft resolution as a whole. However, Indonesia hopes that a consensus on this important matter will be possible in the coming year.

Mr. Al-Sulaiti (Qatar) (*spoke in Arabic*): My delegation has requested to speak in explanation of vote before a decision is taken on this draft resolution in order to make the following points.

The State of Qatar constantly supports cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe, just as we support cooperation between the United Nations and other regional organizations, in conformity with the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations. We are convinced that such cooperation, based on multilateralism, enriches the United Nations. We are mindful of the importance of continued cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe, and we have joined the list of States that have requested a reconsideration of the letter presented by the Permanent Representative of Singapore to his counterpart, the Permanent Representative of Malta. Preambular paragraph 4 and operative paragraphs 6 and 12 do not take into account our concerns and opposition, even when we explained that such a sensitive text contradicts our national legislation. Therefore, we will vote against paragraphs 6 and 12, and will abstain from supporting the text in its entirety.

Mr. Al-Jomae (Saudi Arabia) (*spoke in Arabic*): My delegation would first like to recall that Saudi Arabia supports cooperation between the United Nations and other regional organizations. However, the draft resolution contained in document A/57/L.23/Rev.1, entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe", contains in its operative paragraph 6 mention of the death penalty. There is also mention in paragraph 12 of the guidelines on human rights adopted by the Council of Europe that relate to the abolition of the death penalty. Saudi Arabia cannot join in such a consensus. We object to those two paragraphs, namely 6 and 12, and will abstain from supporting the draft resolution as a whole.

Mr. Al-Hinai (Oman): My delegation has had no difficulties in the past in supporting resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the

Council of Europe. Regrettably, a new element — one on the abolition of the death penalty — was introduced in the draft resolution this year. This runs counter to our laws and my delegation cannot support it. This was introduced in spite of an appeal to the sponsors of draft resolution A/57/L.23/Rev.1 to accommodate our concerns, which would have allowed my delegation to join in the consensus. Unfortunately, this was not to be. My delegation will, therefore, not support operative paragraphs 6 and 12. Least there be any doubt, my delegation wholeheartedly supports cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe and would have gladly supported the draft resolution. If operative paragraphs 6 and 12 are retained, my delegation will regrettably abstain on the draft resolution as a whole.

Mr. Muvunyi (Rwanda): The Government of the Republic of Rwanda does not accept paragraphs 6 and 12 of draft resolution A/57/L.23/Rev.1 entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe", because genocide and terrorism are the worst crimes against humanity and development. It is unconstitutional in my country and unacceptable to fail to carry out the death penalty. I believe that other countries have their own constitutions and that is a matter of sovereignty. Therefore, the abolition of the death penalty cannot be made into a common denominator for all national constitutions.

The Government of Rwanda believes that it would be shameful to the survivors of the genocide if the death penalty were not carried out against those guilty of genocide. The Rwanda genocide of 1994 took away more than 1 million lives in less than a hundred days. The genocide was the result of a culture of impunity, and that is why Rwanda carries out the death penalty against those guilty of genocide. This punishment became educative, as those who had committed genocide started confessing and repenting; before then, they had refused to give any information as to how the genocide was planned and carried out.

Our efforts to eliminate impunity are incompatible with paragraphs 6 and 12 of the draft resolution. The Council of Europe is not well informed with regard to the situation on the ground in other countries. It seems that the Council of Europe seeks to grant amnesty and bestow its blessing on genocide and terrorism, as if the Europeans were not concerned about victims on other continents. While Rwanda attaches great importance to cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe, we cannot endorse impunity. Therefore, Rwanda will not stop carrying out the death penalty, because those who commit genocide and terrorism are criminals. I do not understand why the Council of Europe seeks to grant amnesty to terrorists and those who have committed genocide as they carry out their dirty missions.

Let me remind the representatives of the Council of Europe that they failed to prevent genocide in Rwanda, just as today they are failing to prevent terrorism. As regards terrorism, the Council of Europe has forgotten the victims of the terrorist activities of 11 September 2001 in New York and Washington, D.C., as well as those of earlier attacks in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam on the United States embassies in Africa. Those attacks were followed by attacks in Bali and recently in Mombasa that took more innocent lives. Crimes of terrorism must be punished by a death sentence. In our view, the Council of Europe is sympathetic to genocide and terrorism, both of which are the consequences of impunity. In order to eliminate impunity and eradicate crimes of genocide and terrorism there is an urgent need to impose the death penalty on criminals who cause the death of innocent civilians. For this reason, there should be no consensus on this draft resolution.

Finally, it is my wish that the death penalty be carried out against rapists of young children, if we seek to be serious about defending human rights. Moreover, the abolition of the death penalty in some countries would be to commit suicide. Rwanda is going to vote against the two paragraphs, 6 and 12, and then abstain on the draft resolution as a whole.

Mr. Beyendeza (Uganda): Let me make it clear that my delegation fully supports cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe. However, my delegation has a problem with paragraphs 6 and 12 of the draft resolution for reasons already pointed out by others who have spoken before me. More importantly, my country still maintains the death penalty in our laws, and it would take a parliamentary act to change such a legal status. Until this is done, my delegation will vote against paragraphs 6 and 12 and abstain if the resolution as a whole still carries those paragraphs.

Mr. Mubarez (Yemen) (*spoke in Arabic*): My delegation, like many others, is keen on supporting

cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe. The draft resolution contained in A/57/L.23/Rev.1 does not take into account the concerns expressed by certain delegations with regard to the abolition of the death penalty, which is still in force in those countries, including my own. My delegation will therefore vote against paragraphs 6 and 12 of the draft resolution and abstain from voting for the draft resolution as a whole.

The Acting President (*spoke in Spanish*): We have heard the last speaker in explanation of vote before the voting.

The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolutions A/57/L.23/Rev.1 and A/57/L.55/Rev.1.

We turn first to draft resolution A/57/L.23/Rev.1, entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe". I should like to inform the Assembly that Canada and Suriname have also become sponsors of the draft resolution.

Separate votes have been requested on operative paragraph 4, operative paragraph 6 and operative paragraph 12 of draft resolution A/57/L.23/Rev.1.

Are there any objections to those requests?

There are none. We shall therefore proceed accordingly.

I shall first put to the vote operative paragraph 4 of draft resolution A/57/L.23/Rev.1.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

None.

Abstaining:

Bangladesh, Belize, Burundi, Cameroon, Cuba, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Gambia, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Kazakhstan, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Myanmar, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, United States of America, Vanuatu, Yemen.

Operative paragraph 4 was retained by 109 votes to none, with 36 abstentions.

[Subsequently the delegation of Eritrea informed the Secretariat that it had intended to abstain.]

The Acting President (*spoke in Spanish*): I shall now put to the vote operative paragraph 6 of draft resolution A/57/L.23/Rev.1.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Nepal, Netherlands, New

Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia.

Against:

Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gambia, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Kenya, Kuwait, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nauru, Nigeria, Oman, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sudan, Swaziland, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining:

Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, China, El Salvador, Ghana, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Pakistan, Peru, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Viet Nam.

Operative paragraph 6 was retained by 71 votes to 54, with 32 abstentions.

[Subsequently the delegations of Eritrea and Malawi informed the Secretariat that they had intended to abstain.]

The Acting President (*spoke in Spanish*): I shall now put to the vote operative paragraph 12 of draft resolution A/57/L.23/Rev.1.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia.

Against:

Antigua and Barbuda, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gambia, Grenada, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Kenya, Kuwait, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Nigeria, Oman, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sudan, Swaziland, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining:

Bahamas, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, China, El Salvador, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia.

Operative paragraph 12 was retained by 71 votes to 52, with 33 abstentions.

[Subsequently the delegations of Eritrea and Malawi informed the Secretariat that they had intended to abstain.]

The Acting President (*spoke in Spanish*): I shall now put to the vote draft resolution A/57/L.23/Rev.1 as a whole.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Against:

None.

Abstaining:

Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominica, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

Draft resolution A/57/L.23/Rev.1 was adopted by 92 votes to none, with 65 abstentions (resolution 57/156).

[Subsequently the delegation of Eritrea informed the Secretariat that it had intended to abstain.]

The Acting President (*spoke in Spanish*): The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/57/L.55/Rev.1, entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States".

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/57/L.55/Rev.1?

Draft resolution A/57/L.55/Rev.1 was adopted (resolution 57/157).

The Acting President (*spoke in Spanish*): I now call on those representatives who wish to speak in explanation of vote or position on the resolutions just adopted.

May I remind delegations that explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Mr. Manalo (Philippines): My delegation regrets the fact that consensus was not reached on draft resolution A/57/L.23/Rev.1, which we have just adopted. We had strongly hoped for a consensus resolution because of the importance that my delegation and my Government attach to cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations such as the Council of Europe. In this regard, we fully support cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe and have supported similar resolutions in the past.

We thank Ambassador Balzan and the delegation of Malta as well as the other sponsors for their efforts to try to reach consensus. Nevertheless, my delegation — regrettably — abstained in the voting on the draft resolution this year because of difficulties

with some of the language contained in operative paragraph 12 and in the fourth preambular paragraph.

On the latter paragraph, I wish to make it clear that we fully respect the standards and principles of the Council of Europe, but we are uncertain as to the implications of adhering to them as stated in the resolution.

Finally, my delegation reiterates its full and continuing support for cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe.

Mr. Cheon Wook (Republic of Korea): My delegation abstained in the voting on operative paragraphs 6 and 12 in the resolution on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe.

We believe that the inclusion of references to regional conventions and guidelines that rule in a certain way on a divisive issue at the global level is inappropriate in a resolution that calls for cooperation between this global body and a regional organization.

However, we voted in favour of the resolution as a whole because we are fully supportive of the cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe, and we can go along with the modified language of the two paragraphs in question.

We hope that the spirit of cooperation which the resolution tries to strengthen will not be harmed by the non-consensual manner in which it was adopted this time, and that in future delegations will work together so that the resolution can reclaim the consensus support it had traditionally enjoyed.

Mr. Amer (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) *(spoke in Arabic)*: My delegation has always supported cooperation between the United Nations and regional as well as other organizations. My delegation joined the consensus on all the resolutions we have adopted in the past few days. Of course, we would have liked this draft resolution, which relates to cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe, also to be adopted by consensus. That was the case at previous sessions, and we were among those countries that supported such an approach.

However, at this session, my delegation was not able to support the draft resolution, because it now includes elements that are irrelevant to the objectives that we are trying to attain through cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe.

We would like in particular to highlight operative paragraph 6, which concerns the abolition of the death penalty under all circumstances, as well as operative paragraph 12, which mentions the "Guidelines on Human Rights and the Fight against Terrorism" elaborated by the Council of Europe, item 10 of which also mentions the abolition of the death penalty under all circumstances.

The abolition of the death penalty is a controversial question for many States, for religious and cultural reasons. It is not easy to move beyond these questions when General Assembly resolutions are involved. We wish that the sponsors of the draft resolution had taken the positions of these States into account. Since this was not the case, my delegation had no choice but to vote against operative paragraphs 6 and 12.

My delegation was also obliged to abstain in the voting on draft resolution A/57/L.23/Rev.1 as a whole. This is an expression of our rejection of any attempt to impose on us practices that run counter to our laws and beliefs.

The Acting President (*spoke in Spanish*): There are a number of speakers remaining on my list. I would therefore urge all delegation to speak as briefly as possible in view of the lateness of the hour.

Mr. Fallouh (Syrian Arab Republic) (*spoke in Arabic*): My delegation voted in favour of the draft resolution entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe" because we believe that such cooperation is important and that we should strengthen the means and scope of cooperation between the two organizations, in a similar approach to the one taken to cooperation between the United Nations and other regional organizations.

However, Syria believes that resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and international organizations should stress coordination among these organizations and the United Nations. We should not go into the specifics of the policies of these organizations, which are primarily linked to their mandates in accordance with their laws and practices. To include the policies of such organizations in this kind of resolution, in order to oblige Member States, directly or indirectly, to espouse approaches or concepts that run counter to their national legislation and their religious or cultural practices, is in no way justifiable.

In this context, we feel that the content of operative paragraphs 6 and 12 have nothing to do with the objectives of this draft resolution. Everyone is aware that all peoples and States have their own, particular characteristics and humanitarian and cultural heritage. It is therefore difficult to impose the experiences and practices of some States on other States under different or varied names. For all these reasons, my delegation abstained in the vote on operative paragraphs 6 and 12. We hope that this kind of language will not be included in future draft resolutions of this kind.

Ms. Shoman (Belize): My delegation is taking the floor on behalf of the following countries — Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Grenada, Guyana, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago and my own country, Belize, in explanation of vote after the vote on resolution A/57/L.23/Rev.1, entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe".

As do other Members of the United Nations, my delegation attaches great importance to the cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations and has supported resolutions that promote such cooperation.

With respect to operative paragraphs six and 12 of resolution A/57/L.23/Rev.1, Belize, like other delegations, cannot in principle support references to issues that are significantly contentious and divisive for the general membership of the United Nations in a resolution on cooperation. For that reason, we have voted for the deletion of the paragraphs and have, regrettably, abstained on the resolution as a whole. We regret that efforts to reach a consensus on this occasion were unsuccessful. However, we trust that it will be possible to return to the tradition of consensus that has attended the cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations.

Mr. Al-Awadi (Kuwait) (*spoke in Arabic*): My delegation associates itself with other delegations in expressing our rejection, in particular, of operative paragraphs 6 and 12, of draft resolution A/57/L.23/Rev.1, on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe, which was adopted today. My delegation fully supports the efforts of the Council of Europe to strengthen international cooperation. We also support the activities of the United Nations in all areas, in particular, with respect to the Charter and the resolutions of the United Nations.

It is regrettable that we have to say that we cannot join the consensus, as we have done every year, in the vote on this draft resolution. We have supported it in previous years because we are convinced of the importance of cooperation between the Council of Europe and the United Nations. Operative paragraphs 6 and 12, concerning the abolition of the death penalty, run counter to my country's national laws and legislation concerning the death penalty, adopted according to the precepts of the Islamic religion. That is why we abstained in the vote on the draft resolution and voted against its operative paragraphs 6 and 12.

Finally, we would like to thank the delegation of Malta for its efforts to achieve a consensus. In the future, we will continue to give our support to the Council of Europe and its efforts to strengthen international cooperation.

Mr. Arrouchi (Morocco) (*spoke in French*): The delegation of the Kingdom of Morocco voted in favour of the draft resolution on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe, subject to Moroccan legislation and the penalties it prescribes for violations of it.

Mr. Mustafa (Sudan) (*spoke in Arabic*): My delegation supports the principle of cooperation between the Council of Europe and the United Nations. Furthermore, Sudan supports all areas of cooperation between the United Nations and the other regional organizations.

My delegation regrets that we were unable to adopt this draft resolution by consensus. My delegation voted against operative paragraphs 6 and 12 contained in the draft resolution A/57/L.23/Rev.1 and abstained in the vote on the draft resolution as a whole. We did this for the following reasons. First, this draft resolution, as many delegations have said, dealt with a subject on which there was agreement: cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe. However, a certain number of controversial elements were added. The Assembly knows that the abolition of the death penalty remains a most delicate question for some countries. The positions expressed in the Assembly on this question have been divergent.

Secondly, including controversial questions such as the abolition of the death penalty, guidelines on

human rights and the fight against terrorism in a draft resolution that specifically concerns a subject of agreement has only complicated our task of adopting this draft resolution as a whole. My delegation feels that controversial questions of this kind should be resolved in a different forum.

Thirdly, it would have been possible to keep the international community and States informed of the opening for signature of Protocol 13 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms concerning the abolition of the death penalty in all circumstances by resorting to other established methods followed in diplomacy. This would have led to averting controversial issues and to focusing on strengthening of cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and regional organizations in various activities.

Finally, my delegation would like to express its thanks to the delegation of Malta for its praiseworthy efforts to achieve consensus. It hopes that all draft resolutions under this item will be adopted by consensus in the future.

Mr. Bishnoi (India): My explanation is with regard to A/57/L.23/Rev.1, on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe. India has extremely warm and friendly relations with the members of the Council of Europe. We are, indeed, gratified that these relations continue to be further strengthened and deepened. Under these circumstances, we regret that the draft resolution on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe had to be put to a vote. The United Nations has arrangements for cooperation with various regional and other organizations. Resolutions dealing with cooperation with various individual organizations have traditionally been adopted by consensus. We abstained from voting on the resolution as a whole, given the inclusion of elements which do not enjoy consensus. We agreed that the sponsors did not find it possible to take on board completely the concerns which had been voiced by us and by other delegations. This vote will, we feel, establish a precedent for the future.

Mr. Tomoshige (Japan): The Government of Japan, as an observer of the Council of Europe, greatly appreciates the important activities of that body and wishes to further cooperate with its various activities. For this reason, my delegation voted for draft resolution A/57/L.23/Rev.1.

With regard to operative paragraphs 6 and 12, however, there are different views on the issue of the death penalty. While Japan retains capital punishment, the Government of Japan believes that whether to retain or abolish capital punishment should be carefully studied by each State, taking fully into account the opinion of its people and the nature of the most serious crimes committed in each jurisdiction. Therefore, my delegation strongly believes that the decision of each State in this regard should be respected. My delegation hopes that this resolution will be adopted on a consensus basis in the future.

Mr. Abebe (Ethiopia): Ethiopia notes the cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe over the last couple of decades with great satisfaction. We are looking forward to the strengthening of this cooperation on more solid and concrete grounds to achieve the common goals and objectives of the two organizations.

My delegation regrets that consensus was not achieved on the resolution contained in A/57/L.23/Rev.1. Ethiopia voted against operative paragraph 6 and 12 of the resolution, which deals with the abolition of the death penalty. This issue does not command consensus among the United Nations membership and it contradicts our domestic laws. We abstained in the vote on the resolution as a whole, as it contained these two controversial paragraphs, namely operative paragraphs 6 and 12.

Mr. Mwakawago (United Republic of Tanzania): Two hours ago, the General Assembly adopted 11 draft resolutions. And a few moments ago, before the draft resolution on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe, another resolution, a twelfth one, was adopted by consensus. There was no controversial clause in any of them.

My delegation would like to explain our vote on the important draft resolution A/57/L.23/Rev.1, entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe". My delegation voted against operative paragraphs 6 and 12, which make reference to the death penalty. My delegation has been pained by the inclusion of the controversial measure that has no consensus in the General Assembly. We have made our position known in the informal consultations, ably chaired by the Permanent Representative of Malta.

The draft resolution on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe has always

received consensual support. This year, to our consternation, our development partners have chosen to introduce a very divisive issue that is making it problematic for my delegation to provide its support. For those reasons we abstained.

All resolutions on cooperation are by tradition and precedent adopted by consensus. One important feature of all of them has been the embodiment of non-controversial clauses. The United Republic of Tanzania enjoys excellent relations with the Council of Europe, and indeed with all members of the European Union. It is therefore with deep regret that my delegation has voted against those paragraphs and as a consequence abstained in the vote on the resolution as a whole.

In conclusion, I would like to report that the death penalty is incorporated into our laws. It is our hope that in the future resolutions that are normally adopted by consensus will not be held hostage by the introduction of controversial paragraphs.

Mr. Wang Donghua (China) (*spoke in Chinese*): The Chinese delegation has all along supported strengthened cooperation between the United Nations and the various regional organizations, including the Council of Europe. We hope that such cooperation can produce concrete results on the basis of pragmatism and mutual respect. It is because of this reason that the Chinese delegation voted in favour of the resolution contained in document A/57/L.23/Rev.1.

However, this does not mean that the Chinese delegation supports operative paragraphs 6 and 12. These two paragraphs contain certain elements, that is, they call for the abolition of the death penalty in all circumstances. Such elements have nothing to do with the question of cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe. These are highly controversial issues within the United Nations, and to introduce such elements in this draft resolution will not enhance cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe. Therefore my delegation abstained in the vote on these two paragraphs. It is our hope that the General Assembly will be able to reach a consensus in adopting the resolution in the future.

Mr. Drammeh (Gambia): My delegation is always keen to support cooperation between the United Nations and any regional organization. However, given the inclusion of external elements in draft resolution A/57/L.23/Rev.1, my delegation voted as shown in the records and regrets not being able to join the consensus. This decision is based on the principle that the explicit and implicit references to the abolition of death penalty in operative paragraphs 6 and 12 respectively are indirectly interfering with the national legal processes of some Member States.

The Acting President (*spoke in Spanish*): We have heard the last speaker in explanation of vote after the vote.

I now give the floor to the representative of the Czech Republic on a point of order.

Mr. Kára (Czech Republic): I take the floor to inform the General Assembly that a few days ago my country signed the list of sponsors for the draft resolution on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe. Therefore, I ask that the Czech Republic be considered as a sponsor of draft resolution L.23/Rev.1.

The Acting President: I call on delegations wishing to make statements after the adoption of the resolution.

Mr. Balzan (Malta): I have listened carefully to the explanation of positions expressed prior to and after the votes were taken on resolution A/57/L.23/Rev.1, entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe".

It is very much regretted that, notwithstanding several genuine attempts to amend the language in order to facilitate acceptance by all delegations, we were not able to adopt the resolution by consensus.

In expressing my full respect for all the views expressed, and the positions taken by different delegations, may I reassure this body that it was not the intention of the Council of Europe or of the sponsors of the resolution, to convert a cooperation resolution into a debate on specific issues, controversial or otherwise. The resolution took note of factual events that occurred with the Council of Europe's ambit, as well as its contribution towards enhancing cooperation with the United Nations.

I reiterate that the Council of Europe attaches great importance and significance to its cooperation with the United Nations and looks forward to its further enhancement.

In conclusion, Mr. President, allow me to express my sincere thanks to all delegations that participated in the negotiating process. My heartfelt thanks are also

addressed to the sponsors and delegations that expressed their support for the Council of Europe's work, particularly that of cooperation with the United Nations.

Ms. Loemban Tobing-Klein (Suriname): In a brief general statement, Suriname, as a traditional strong supporter of cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe, wishes to state that we have also wholeheartedly supported the resolution as a whole and as a sponsor, but we want to express full solidarity and understanding with the representatives who have serious and valid concerns against operative paragraphs 6 and 12 by abstaining on these paragraphs and by doing so, expressing the hope that it will be possible to achieve full consensus on this important resolution in the near future, as has been the case in previous years.

The Acting President (*spoke in Spanish*): May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-items (d) and (n) of agenda item 22?

I see no objection.

It was so decided.

Postponement of the date of recess

The President in the Chair.

The President: I should like to draw members' attention to the date of recess of the current session. Members will recall that, at its 68th plenary meeting on 6 December 2002, the General Assembly decided that the fifty-seventh session would recess on Wednesday, 18 December 2002. However, in view of the work that remains to be done for this part of the session, I should like to propose to the Assembly that it postpone the date of recess of the current session to Friday, 20 December 2002.

If there is no objection, may I take it that the Assembly agrees to this proposal?

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 1.20 p.m.

United Nations A/57/PV.76

General Assembly

Official Records

Fifty-seventh session

76th plenary meeting
Monday, 16 December 2002, 3 p.m.
New York

President: Mr. Kavan ..... (Czech Republic)

In the absence of the President, Mr. Santa Clara Gomes (Portugal), Vice-President, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 3.15 p.m.

Agenda item 23 (*continued*)

United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage

Draft resolution (A/57/L.59)

The Acting President: The General Assembly will resume its consideration of agenda item 23, entitled "United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage". Members will recall that the General Assembly held a debate on this agenda item at the 67th plenary meeting on 4 December 2002. In this connection, the Assembly has before it the draft resolution issued as document A/57/L.59.

I give the floor to the representative of Egypt to introduce draft resolution A/57/L.59.

Mr. Atta (Egypt) (*spoke in Arabic*): The delegation of Egypt is pleased to introduce the draft resolution contained in document A/57/L.59 on the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage. The draft resolution refers to the conclusion of the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage, 2002, as set forth in General Assembly resolution 56/8 in its previous session.

The draft resolution stresses the need for the international community to make every effort to promote and preserve humankind's common cultural heritage, whether tangible, intangible, natural or man-made. The draft resolution also stresses the need to further the constructive efforts being carried out by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in this area, as it is the international organization most suited to protecting and promoting the cultural heritage for humankind. The draft resolution also calls upon the Director-General of that organization to participate in the discussion of this agenda item at the next session of the General Assembly regarding the work of the organization.

The delegation of Egypt would like to thank all the delegations that participated in the ample discussions on this draft resolution. In particular, we would like to thank the delegations that have sponsored the draft resolution, including Bangladesh, France, Indonesia, Madagascar, the Maldives, Mongolia, Nicaragua, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation, Thailand and Yemen.

In conclusion, I would like to comment on something that has already been mentioned several times. This draft resolution contains a number of differences from the original text as submitted to the Secretariat. They do not affect the general import of the draft resolution. But, perhaps, require an explanation. We would have liked to have been consulted, along with the other sponsors, before those changes were introduced into the draft resolution. Some of them change phrasing agreed upon in previous documents of the United Nations; others do not take into account the balance that was achieved in the text. That balance was

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a compromise between the divergent positions that were taken during the negotiations. We would therefore like the following corrections to be made to the text.

In the fourth preambular paragraph, we would like the word "these" to be replaced with the words "host", so that the phrase will read "host communities". In the same paragraph, the word "intensifying" should be replaced by "enhancing" so that the phrase will read "enhancing international cooperation". Those changes bring the draft text back into line with the outcome of the Johannesburg Summit.

In operative paragraph 4, we would like the word "possible" to be added after "explore", so the phrase will read "explore possible ways", in order to reflect a delicate compromise reached in the course of consultations. We would also like the Arabic translation to be revised, because we find many discrepancies between it and the English text.

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/57/L.59 as orally corrected, entitled "United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage 2002". May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/57/L.59 as orally corrected?

Draft resolution A/57/L.59, as orally corrected, was adopted (resolution 57/158).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 23?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 28 (continued)

Assistance in mine action

Draft resolution (A/57/L.53)

The Acting President: Members will recall that the General Assembly debated this agenda item at the 51st and 52nd plenary meetings, held on 15 and 19 November 2002. I give the floor to the representative of Denmark to introduce draft resolution A/57/L.53.

Ms. Løj (Denmark): On behalf of the European Union and the other sponsors, I have the honour to introduce the draft resolution on "Assistance in mine action", contained in document A/57/L.53. Since the submission of the draft resolution, the following countries have joined the list of sponsors: Afghanistan, Albania, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Gabon, the Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Haiti, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Nauru, New Zealand, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, the Philippines, Poland, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, the Sudan, Suriname, Thailand, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tuvalu, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Yemen, Yugoslavia and Zambia. That makes a total of 108 sponsors.

I have a small correction to operative paragraph 19 of the present draft. The word "or" should be added in the third line, after "United Nations Development Programme". That line should read "supported by the United Nations Development Programme or under the auspices of the". It was submitted in its present form by mistake.

The draft resolution before us today reflects the outcome of constructive consultations with interested delegations. I would like sincerely to thank Belgium for having conducted the negotiations on the draft resolution on behalf of the presidency of the European Union.

Bearing in mind the increasing need for assistance in mine action, the importance of this draft resolution — which addresses the vital issue of assistance in mine action, at the international, national and regional levels — is growing.

Allow me briefly to point out the main elements of the draft resolution. The text recognizes the primary role and responsibility of Member States in assistance to mine action and the significant assisting role of the United Nations in this field. It calls more specifically on mine-affected countries to assume their national responsibility in resolving the landmine problem, and it appeals to donor Governments to increase, whenever possible, their international assistance and contributions.

The draft also underlines the humanitarian imperative of mine action and the importance of integrating mine-action activities into broader

humanitarian strategies, especially in emergency situations.

Consequently, the draft resolution encourages the finalization of a United Nations emergency response plan. The draft resolution recognizes that mine action also includes activities in the broader context of development aid. The draft notes with appreciation the report of the Secretary-General and requests him to review in 2003 the United Nations mine-action strategy by seeking the views of Member States.

Finally, the draft resolution stresses the need to convince non-State actors to halt immediately and unconditionally new deployment of anti-personnel mines, and it also requests the development of standard reports on mine action programmes related to the scope and impact of the mine problem, available resources and capacities and the progress achieved in the field.

In view of the importance of assistance in mine action and of the problem of mines and unexploded ordnance in general, it is the hope of the sponsors that this draft resolution will, as in previous years, be adopted by consensus.

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/57/L.53, as orally corrected.

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/57/L.53, as orally corrected?

Draft resolution A/57/L.53, as orally corrected, was adopted (resolution 57/159).

The Acting President: I shall now call on those representatives who wish to speak in explanation of position on the resolution just adopted.

May I remind delegations that explanations of vote are limited to 10 minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Ms. Rodsmoen (Norway): Anti-personnel mines remain a serious cause of human suffering in many parts of the world. Humanitarian mine action is often a prerequisite for peace and reconciliation and for humanitarian assistance and development.

It is of great importance that we continue to address the problems caused by anti-personnel mines by maintaining our efforts on the ground and by focusing on the humanitarian objectives of this work and its practical implementation in the field. Our objective is to prevent mines from claiming new victims and to help the survivors.

While Norway has just joined the consensus on resolution A/57/L.53 on assistance in mine action, there are various aspects of this resolution that we would have liked to see improved. Allow me to reiterate a few elements in this respect.

It is of great importance that available financial and human resources be utilized in an optimal manner. It is crucial that the primary responsibility for mine action, including coordination, lie with the mine-affected countries themselves. This is imperative in making mine action sustainable and effective.

For Norway, the mine-ban Convention is the primary framework for mine action. The Convention contains provisions not only for a total ban on antipersonnel mines, but also on international cooperation and assistance in mine action.

United Nations agencies, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and various non-governmental organizations all are indispensable actors in humanitarian mine action.

The United Nations Mine Action Service has an important role in securing the integration of mine-action issues in the work of the United Nations system wherever it may be relevant. It is important, however, to make a distinction between the Secretariat's coordinating and mainstreaming work within the United Nations system, and the operative, field-based mine action carried out by the United Nations and by non-governmental organizations.

It is within these areas that we would have welcomed further improvements to A/57/L.53. However, given the overall humanitarian importance of mine action, we decided to join the consensus on this year's resolution.

Mr. Amer (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) *(spoke in Arabic)*: My delegation joined the consensus on draft resolution A/57/L.53, entitled "Assistance in mine action". However, we would like to make the following comments.

First, the contents of the report (A/57/430) of the Secretary-General were taken into consideration in the drafting of the resolution. That report, despite the useful information contained therein, is like previous ones in that it focuses on recently planted mines,

ignoring older ones such as those that plague many States, including my country.

During the course of the Second World War, millions of mines were planted in my country, and thousands of people were killed. Those mines continue to pose a threat to the people who live in the affected areas; they contribute to the destruction of property and impede expansion of agricultural fields.

Secondly, my delegation warned of the problems emanating from those mines and drew the attention of the Secretary-General to that problem. We also expressed the hope that the United Nations would accord the necessary attention to older mines. In fact, a mission sent by the Organization to Libya confirmed that millions of mines were planted in Libya by the Allied and Axis forces. Regrettably, the report submitted to this session, like previous ones, focuses only on recently planted mines. My delegation would therefore like once again to reiterate how regrettable we consider that approach to be. We hope that that shortcoming will be avoided in the future, particularly in the framework of the mine-clearance strategy for the period 2001-2005, when attention would hopefully be focused on clearing old mines, which, like those that have recently been planted, cause injury and property damage.

Thirdly, one of the paragraphs in the report refers to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on their Destruction. Although we believe that that Convention constitutes one of the fundamental pillars for international action in this area, we did not join it for many reasons, in particular because it ignored the very important aspect of the security of large States that cannot otherwise protect themselves. Furthermore, the Convention makes no provision whatsoever with regard to the legal responsibility of colonial States to clear the mines that they planted in the territory of other States. My delegation hopes that the States parties to the Convention will try to overcome those shortcomings so that the universality of that Convention can be achieved.

Mr. Wang Lei (China) (*spoke in Chinese*): The delegation of China joined in the consensus on draft resolution A/57/L.53, entitled "Assistance in mine action". China fully understands the humanitarian concerns of the international community regarding the indiscriminate injury to innocent civilians caused by anti-personnel landmines. China supports international efforts to address that problem. For that reason, China ratified the amended landmines Protocol to the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW), and strictly abides by it.

We believe that the indiscriminate use of landmines and the ineffectiveness of post-war demining efforts are cause for serious humanitarian concern. Such concerns can be addressed in two ways. First, we should prevent the indiscriminate use of landmines and ensure the universal and effective implementation of the amended landmines Protocol to the CCW. Secondly, we should actively demine those deployed landmines that are not in conformity with the provisions of the amended landmine Protocol. In recent years, China has been actively engaged in international demining assistance with a view to helping mine-affected countries and to alleviating their suffering. In the past two years we have donated demining equipment to seven mine-affected countries — Angola, Cambodia, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Namibia and Rwanda. The Chinese Government also plans to donate demining equipment to Lebanon. China sent a demining expert team to Eritrea for on-site demining training so as to help that mine-affected country to build on and enhance its demining capacity. In November this year, China sent another demining expert team to Afghanistan to investigate the situation there.

The Chinese Government would like to continue to cooperate in exchanging experience with interested countries and international organizations on humanitarian demining assistance and to make further contributions to international demining action.

The Acting President: We have heard the last speaker in explanation of vote.

May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 28?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 38 (*continued*)

The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development

Draft resolutions (A/57/L.20/Rev.1, A/57/L.27/Rev.1)

Reports of the Fifth Committee (A/57/645, A/57/646)

The Acting President: Members will recall that the General Assembly held a debate on this agenda item at the 47th and 50th plenary meetings on 11 and 14 November 2002.

The report of the Fifth Committee on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/57/L.20/Rev.1 is contained in document A/57/645.

The report of the Fifth Committee on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/57/L.27/Rev.1 is contained in document A/57/646.

I give the floor to the representative of Mexico to introduce draft resolution A/57/L.27/Rev.1.

Mr. De Alba (Mexico) (*spoke in Spanish*): It is an honour for the delegation of Mexico to introduce, on behalf of the sponsors, the draft resolution on the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala (MINUGUA), contained in document A/57/L.27/Rev.1. In addition to the countries appearing in the revised text of the draft, which we are introducing today, I would like to inform the Assembly that the delegations of El Salvador, Slovenia and Ireland have also joined the list of sponsors.

On 29 December 1996, 36 years of internal conflict ended in Guatemala with the signing of the Agreement on a Firm and Lasting Peace. That Agreement was the result of a six-year negotiating process under the auspices of the United Nations, and provided for a series of political, military, legislative, social, economic, agrarian, ethnic and cultural measures, which included a broad national agenda for peace.

Since then, as a result of the decision of the parties, the United Nations has played a fundamental role in the peace process, verifying compliance with the commitments undertaken in the Agreement. The presence of MINUGUA has been very positive. The parties and Guatemalan society have recognized that the United Nations, through that Mission, has contributed a degree of certainty and trust to the implementation of the Peace Agreement, as shown by the long list of sponsors of the draft resolution. The draft resolution that we are introducing today makes reference to previous General Assembly resolutions and relevant reports of the Secretary-General, and to reports of the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala (MINUGUA). It highlights progress achieved in the peace process, as well as challenges remaining, and refers to the responsibility of the parties and of Guatemalan society as a whole to make a national effort to ensure that the peace process will be irreversible. The draft also refers to the importance that the international community has granted to the fulfilment of the pending commitments within the new timeframe through the end of 2004. It also asks the international community to provide financial support in order to strengthen national capacity.

The draft proposes that an extension of the MINUGUA mandate be authorized for one additional year, from 1 January 2003 to 31 December 2003, in accordance with the Secretary-General's recommendations. Additionally, in the draft the door is left open for a possible extension of the mission's mandate through the end of 2004, taking into account the request made along these lines by the Guatemalan Government and civil society, in view of the fact that at the beginning of this year there will be a new Government. Therefore, the draft welcomes the intention of the Secretary-General to carry out consultations with regard to those requests with interested Member States, aiming at the consolidation of the peace process after 31 December 2003.

I would like to make a last-minute technical correction to the draft resolution. I am referring to a correction related to the dates set for the next meeting of the Consultative Group for Guatemala, which appears in operative paragraph 8. I understand that the meeting, which is referred to in this paragraph, has been postponed to June or July. Hence, please replace the words "for March 2003" with the words "for the middle of 2003". In addition, I wish to say that in submitting the draft resolution to the Secretariat, my delegation submitted English and Spanish texts simultaneously, but the draft under consideration lists only English as the original language.

We have also noted that some modifications were made in the Spanish text, and they were done without the knowledge of the co-sponsors. We would therefore ask the Secretariat to review this question and to make the corresponding adjustments.

Finally, let me point out that Guatemala has been a successful experience for the United Nations. The parties have provided an unequivocal proof of their commitment to the peace process. As has already been said, considerable progress has been achieved, but there are still challenges ahead. The sponsors therefore trust that this draft resolution will receive unanimous support in the Assembly.

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolutions A/57/L.20/Rev.1 and A/57/L.27/Rev.1 as orally corrected.

We turn first to draft resolution A/57/L.20/Rev.1, entitled "The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development". I should like to announce that since the publication of the draft resolution, the following countries have also become sponsors of A/57/L.20/Rev.1: Belize, Canada, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama. May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/57/L.20/Rev.1?

Draft resolution A/57/L.20/Rev.1 was adopted (resolution 57/160).

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/57/L.27/Rev.1, entitled "United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala", as orally corrected. May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/57/L.27/Rev.1 as orally corrected?

Draft resolution A/57/L.27/Rev.1 as orally corrected was adopted (resolution 57/161).

Mr. Rosenthal (Guatemala) *(spoke in Spanish)*: Last 11 November, I addressed this Assembly to make a substantive presentation in favour of extending the mandate of the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala (MINUGUA) for the year 2003. In addition, I reiterated the request of President Alfonso Portillo of Guatemala, presented in this same Hall, with regard to considering the further extension of the mandate until the end of 2004. The only purpose of my statement today is to express our appreciation for the decision just taken with the adoption of resolution A/57/L.27/Rev.1 with the oral amendment introduced by Mexico.

Our appreciation is directed, first of all, to our Mexican colleagues, who coordinated the consultations on the text reflected in this resolution; secondly, to the countries that form part of the friends of the Guatemalan peace process, which joined Mexico in this endeavour; thirdly, to all countries which co-sponsored the resolution; last but not least, to all Member States of this plenary, who have not only approved the extension of MINUGUA's mandate for another year, but have also left the door open to consider a positive response to our request that the presence of the United Nations be extended until the end of 2004, in order to be present during the first year of the new Government that will take office as of January of that year.

For our part, we reiterate our political commitment to move ahead with the action contemplated in the peace accord, and to cooperate with the United Nations in the next phase, in which the functions of MINUGUA will gradually be transferred to national entities. We will also cooperate with the Secretary-General in responding as required to the consultations referred to in paragraph 25, in order to determine the exact date of MINUGUA's final withdrawal from Guatemala.

The Acting President: The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 38.

Agenda item 168

International Year of Rice, 2004

Draft resolution (A/57/L.58/Rev.1)

The Acting President: I give the floor to the representative of the Philippines to introduce draft resolution A/57/L.58/Rev.1.

Mr. Manalo (Philippines): On behalf of the sponsors, I have the honour to introduce the draft resolution entitled "International Year of Rice, 2004", contained in document A/57/L.58/Rev.1. At this point, however, I wish to point out a typographical omission in the title of the draft resolution. In that regard, the year "2004" should be added to the title of the draft resolution after the words "international year of rice"

so that the title reads "International Year of Rice, 2004".

First of all, I wish to thank all the delegations that contributed to the formulation of the draft resolution before us. The draft resolution, which is an offshoot of a draft resolution adopted by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in November 2001, is straightforward, declaring 2004 the International Year of Rice. It also invites the FAO to facilitate the implementation of the International Year of Rice in collaboration with Governments and other relevant organizations of the United Nations system, as well as non-governmental organizations.

By declaring 2004 the International Year of Rice, the sponsors of this draft resolution believe that impetus will be provided for promoting various activities related to the production and consumption of rice as well as recognition of the inter-relationship between rice and the alleviation of hunger, malnutrition and poverty. According to the FAO, more than 800 million people in the world suffer from hunger and malnutrition. Most of them live in areas that are dependent upon rice production for food, income and employment — hence the urgent need to heighten the level of awareness of the importance of rice.

Finally, I wish to announce that, since the publication of draft resolution A/57/L.58/Rev.1, the following countries have joined the list of sponsors: Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Fiji, Gabon, Grenada, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Mali, the Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Myanmar, Nauru, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Togo, Viet Nam and Zambia. In that regard, we all seek the General Assembly's adoption of draft resolution A/57/L.58/Rev.1 by consensus.

The President: The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution A/57/L.58/Rev.1, as orally corrected.

May I take it that the Assembly decides to adopt draft resolution A/57/L.58/Rev.1, as orally corrected?

Draft resolution A/57/L.58/Rev.1, as orally corrected, was adopted (resolution 57/162).

The President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 168?

It was so decided.

Programme of work

The President: I would like to make an announcement regarding the consideration of the reports of the Main Committees to the General Assembly.

In the morning of Wednesday, 18 December 2002, the General Assembly will consider the reports of the Third Committee. In the morning of Friday, 20 December 2002, the General Assembly will consider the reports of the Second Committee.

The meeting rose at 4.05 p.m.

United Nations A/57/PV.77

General Assembly
Fifty-seventh session

Official Records

77th plenary meeting
Wednesday, 18 December 2002, 10 a.m.
New York

President: Mr. Kavan ..... (Czech Republic)

In the absence of the President, Mr. Pfanzelter (Austria), Vice-President, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m

Reports of the Third Committee

The Acting President: The General Assembly will consider the reports of the Third Committee on agenda items 97 to 109, 43 and 12.

I request the Rapporteur of the Third Committee, Mrs. Oksana Boiko of Ukraine, to introduce the reports of the Third Committee in one intervention.

Mrs. Boiko (Ukraine), Rapporteur of the Third Committee: I have the great honour to present for consideration the following reports of the Third Committee on the agenda items allocated to it by the General Assembly.

Under item 43 of the agenda, entitled "Follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children", no action was taken.

Under item 97, entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 10 of document A/57/544, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under item 98, entitled "Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family", the Committee recommends, in paragraphs 17 and 18 of document A/57/545, the adoption of three draft resolutions and one draft decision.

Under item 99, entitled "Follow-up to the international Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing", the Committee recommends, in paragraph 8 of document A/57/546, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under item 100, entitled "Crime prevention and criminal justice", the Committee recommends, in paragraph 22 of document A/57/547, the adoption of six draft resolutions and, in paragraph 23, one draft decision.

Under item 101, entitled "International drug control", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 8 of document A/57/548, the adoption of one draft resolution.

Under item 102, entitled "Advancement of women", the Committee recommends, in paragraph 34 of document A/57/549, the adoption of six draft resolutions and, in paragraph 35, one draft decision. In connection with draft resolution IV, entitled "Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women", operative paragraph 4 should be updated so that the reference to the number of States parties reads "which now stands at forty-nine".

Under item 103, entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General

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Assembly, entitled 'Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century'", the Committee recommends, in paragraph 12 of document A/57/550, the adoption of two draft resolutions.

Under item 104, entitled "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions", the Committee recommends, in paragraph 20 of document A/57/551, the adoption of five draft resolutions.

Under item 105, entitled "Promotion and protection of the rights of children", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 25 of document A/57/552, the adoption of three draft resolutions and, in paragraph 26, one draft decision.

Under item 106, entitled "Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People", the Committee recommends, in paragraph 16 of document A/57/553, the adoption of three draft resolutions and, in paragraph 17, one draft decision. With regard to draft resolution I, in operative paragraph 1 (a), the words "in New York" should be added after "of the Secretariat".

Under sub-item 107 (a), entitled "Elimination of racism and racial discrimination", and sub-item 107 (b), entitled "Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 18 of document A/57/554, the adoption of five draft resolutions and, in paragraph 19, one draft decision.

Under item 108, entitled "Right of peoples to self-determination", the Committee recommends, in paragraph 19 of document A/57/555, the adoption of three draft resolutions.

Under item 109, entitled "Human rights questions", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 4 of document A/57/556, the adoption of one draft decision.

Under sub-item 109 (a), entitled "Implementation of human rights instruments", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 31 of document A/57/556/Add.1 the adoption of four draft resolutions.

Under sub-item 109 (b), entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms", the Third Committee recommends, in paragraph 127 of document A/57/556/Add.2 the adoption of 27 draft resolutions and, in paragraph 128, the adoption of one draft decision.

Under sub-item 109 [c], entitled "Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives", the Committee recommends, in paragraph 46 of document A/57/556/Add.3 the adoption of five draft resolutions.

With regard to draft resolution III, "Situation of human rights in Iraq", operative paragraph 5 (i) should read as follows:

> "To cooperate fully with the relevant mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights, in particular its Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Iraq, and to ensure his access to Iraq, without preconditions, in order to allow him fully to discharge his mandate, including by allowing access to any person deemed appropriate by the Special Rapporteur;".

In connection with this report, I should also like to make two corrections to draft resolution IV, entitled "Situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo". At the end of operative paragraph 3 (f), the words "have not yet been brought to justice" should be corrected to read "remain to be brought to justice"; and at the beginning of operative paragraph 5 (e), the words "Together with" should be changed to read "Along with".

Under sub-item (d), entitled "Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action", of agenda item 109, "Human rights questions", the Third Committee recommends, in document A/57/556/Add.4, paragraph 5, the adoption of one draft decision.

No action was taken under sub-item (e), entitled "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights", of agenda item 109, "Human rights questions".

Under agenda item 12, entitled "Report of the Economic and Social Council", the Third Committee recommends, in document A/57/558, paragraph 8, the adoption of two draft decisions.

I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the Chairman of the Third Committee, Ambassador Christian Wenaweser of Liechtenstein, for the outstanding manner in which he conducted the work of the Committee. His experience, knowledge and understanding of issues before us enabled the Committee to carry out its considerably complicated and difficult task. I would also like to thank my brilliant colleagues in the Bureau of the Committee, Vice-Chairpersons Ms. Loreto Leyton of Chile, Mrs. Ilham Ibrahim Mohamed Ahmed of the Sudan and Mr. Toru Morikawa of Japan, with whom I had the great pleasure of working.

I should also like to express my gratitude and appreciation to the secretariat of the Third Committee for its exhaustive work and the assistance it provided to me in the discharge of my duties as Rapporteur of the Third Committee.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the members of the Group of Eastern European States, which I have had the honour to represent in the Bureau of the Third Committee during this session of the General Assembly. I thank my dear friends for their support, and wish "happy holidays" to all.

The Acting President: If there is no proposal under rule 66 of the rules of procedure, I shall take it that the General Assembly decides not to discuss the reports of the Third Committee which are before the Assembly today.

It was so decided.

The Acting President: Statements will therefore be limited to explanations of vote.

The positions of delegations regarding the recommendations of the Third Committee have been made clear in the Committee and are reflected in the relevant official records.

May I remind members that under paragraph 7 of decision 34/401, the General Assembly agreed that

> "When the same draft resolution is considered in a Main Committee and in plenary meeting, a delegation should, as far as possible, explain its vote only once, that is, either in the Committee or in plenary meeting, unless that delegation's vote in plenary meeting is different from its vote in the Committee."

May I remind delegations that, also in accordance with General Assembly decision 34/401, explanations of vote are limited to ten minutes and should be made by delegations from their seats.

Before we begin to take action on the recommendations contained in the reports of the Third Committee, I should like to advise representatives that we are going to proceed to take decisions in the same manner as was done in the Third Committee, unless the Secretariat is notified otherwise in advance. That means that where recorded votes or separate votes were taken, we will do the same. I should also hope that we may proceed to adopt without a vote those recommendations that were adopted without a vote in the Third Committee.

Agenda item 97

Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

Report of the Third Committee (A/57/544)

The Acting President: The Assembly will take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 10 of its report.

The Third Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/163).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 97?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 98 (*continued*)

Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family

Report of the Third Committee (A/57/545)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on three draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 17 of its report and one draft decision recommended by the Committee

in paragraph 18 of the same report. After all the decisions have been taken, representatives will again have the opportunity to explain their votes.

Draft resolution I is entitled "Preparation for and observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 57/164).

The Acting President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Promoting youth employment".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 57/165).

The Acting President: Draft resolution III is entitled "United Nations Literacy Decade: education for all".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution III without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 57/166).

The Acting President: We now turn to the draft decision contained in paragraph 18 of the report.

The draft decision is entitled "Reports submitted in connection with agenda item 98".

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 57/527).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 98?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 99

Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing

Report of the Third Committee (A/57/546)

The Acting President: The Assembly will take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 8 of its report.

The draft resolution is entitled "Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing".

The Third Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/167).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 99?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 100

Crime prevention and criminal justice

Report of the Third Committee (A/57/547)

The Acting President: The Assembly will take a decision on six draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 22 of its report and a draft decision recommended by the Committee in paragraph 23 of the same report.

We turn first to draft resolution I, entitled "International cooperation in the fight against transnational organized crime: assistance to States in capacity-building with a view to facilitating the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the protocols thereto".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 57/168).

The Acting President: Draft resolution II is entitled "High-level political conference for the purpose of signing the United Nations convention against corruption".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 57/169).

The Acting President: Draft resolution III is entitled "Follow-up to the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution III without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 57/170).

The Acting President: Draft resolution IV is entitled "Preparations for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution IV without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution IV was adopted (resolution 57/171).

The Acting President: Draft resolution V is entitled "United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution V without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution V was adopted (resolution 57/172).

The Acting President: Draft resolution VI is entitled "Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution VI without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution VI was adopted (resolution 57/173).

The Acting President: We now turn to the draft decision entitled "Documents considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of crime prevention and criminal justice".

May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to adopt the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 57/528).

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 100.

Agenda item 101

International drug control

Report of the Third Committee (A/57/548)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft resolution recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 8 of its report.

The draft resolution is entitled "International cooperation against the world drug problem".

The Third Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft resolution was adopted (resolution 57/174).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 101?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 102

Advancement of women

Report of the Third Committee (A/57/549)

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/57/658)

The Acting President: The Assembly will consider the report of the Third Committee on agenda item 102 entitled "Advancement of women". The report of the Fifth Committee on the programme

budget implications of draft resolution I is contained in document A/57/658.

The Assembly will now take a decision on the six draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 34 of its report and the draft decision recommended by the Committee in paragraph 35 of the same report.

We turn first to draft resolution I, entitled "Future operation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Australia, Canada, Israel, Japan, Netherlands, Republic of Korea, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uzbekistan.

Draft resolution I was adopted by 136 votes to 7, with 29 abstentions (resolution 57/175).

The Acting President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Trafficking in women and girls".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 57/176).

The Acting President: Draft resolution III is entitled "Situation of older women in society".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution III without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 57/177).

The Acting President: Draft resolution IV is entitled "Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution IV without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt draft resolution IV, as orally updated by the Rapporteur?

Draft resolution IV, as orally updated, was adopted (resolution 57/178).

The Acting President: Draft resolution V is entitled "Working towards the elimination of crimes against women committed in the name of honour".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution V without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution V was adopted (resolution 57/179).

The Acting President: Draft resolution VI is entitled "Improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution VI without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution VI was adopted (resolution 57/180).

The Acting President: We now turn to the draft decision entitled "Document submitted in connection with the question of the advancement of women".

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt the draft decision as recommended by the Third Committee?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 57/529).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 102?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 103

Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"

Report of the Third Committee (A/57/550)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the two draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 12 of its report. Draft resolution I is entitled "Elimination of all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 57/181).

The Acting President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly.

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 57/182).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of the agenda item 103?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 104

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions

Report of the Third Committee (A/57/551)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the five draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 20 of its report.

Draft resolution I is entitled "Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 57/183).

The Acting President: Draft resolution II is entitled "New international humanitarian order". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 57/184).

The Acting President: Draft resolution III is entitled "Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution III without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 57/185).

The Acting President: Draft resolution IV is entitled "Continuation of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution IV without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution IV was adopted (resolution 57/186).

The Acting President: Draft resolution V is entitled "Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution V without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution V was adopted (resolution 57/187).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 104?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 105

Promotion and protection of the rights of children

Report of the Third Committee (A/57/552)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the three draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 25 of the report and on the draft decision recommended by the Committee in paragraph 26 of the same report.

We now turn to draft resolution I, entitled "Situation of and assistance to Palestinian children".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia,

Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Yugoslavia.

Draft resolution I was adopted by 108 votes to 5, with 60 abstentions (resolution 57/188).

The Acting President: Draft resolution II is entitled "The girl child".

A separate, recorded vote has been requested on operative paragraph 1 of draft resolution II.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Marshall Islands, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Israel.

Operative paragraph 1 was retained by 168 votes to 2, with 1 abstention.

The Acting President: The Third Committee adopted draft resolution II, as a whole, without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution II, as a whole, was adopted (resolution 57/189).

The Acting President: Draft resolution III is entitled "Rights of the child".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan,

Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Marshall Islands, United States of America.

Draft resolution III was adopted by 175 votes to 2 (resolution 57/190).

The Acting President: We now turn to the draft decision entitled "Reports submitted in connection with the promotion and protection of the rights of children".

May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to adopt the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 57/530).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 105?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 106

Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

Report of the Third Committee (A/57/553)

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/57/659)

The Acting President: The report of the Fifth Committee on the programme budget implications of draft resolution I is contained in document A/57/659.

The Assembly will now take a decision on the three draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 16 of its report and on the draft decision recommended by the Committee in paragraph 17 of the report.

Draft resolution I is entitled "Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt draft resolution I, as orally corrected by the Rapporteur?

Draft resolution I, as orally corrected by the Rapporteur, was adopted (resolution 57/191).

The Acting President: Draft resolution II is entitled "International Decade of the World's Indigenous People".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 57/192).

The Acting President: Draft resolution III is entitled "Indigenous People and issues".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution III without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 57/193).

The Acting President: We now turn to the draft decision entitled "Document considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of the programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People".

May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 57/531).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 106?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 107

Elimination of racism and racial discrimination

Report of the Third Committee (A/57/554)

The Acting President: The Assembly will take a decision on the two draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 18 of its report and on the draft decision recommended by the Committee in paragraph 19 of the same report.

Draft resolution I is entitled "International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination".

A separate vote has been requested on operative paragraph 10 of section 1 of draft resolution I.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, United States of America.

Operative paragraph 10 of section 1 of draft resolution I was retained by 168 votes to 2.

The Acting President: The Third Committee adopted draft resolution I as a whole without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution I as a whole was adopted (resolution 57/194).

The Acting President: Draft resolution II is entitled "The fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize,

Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Australia, Canada.

Draft resolution II was adopted by 173 votes to 3, with 2 abstentions (resolution 57/195).

The Acting President: The Assembly will now turn to the draft decision entitled "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the comprehensive implementation of follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance".

May I take it that the General Assembly decides to adopt the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 57/532).

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 107.

Agenda item 108

Right of peoples to self-determination

Report of the Third Committee (A/57/555)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the three draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 19 of its report.

Draft resolution I is entitled "Use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon,

Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malta, Monaco, Nauru, New Zealand, Palau, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Turkey, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Yugoslavia.

Draft resolution I was adopted by 124 votes to 21, with 34 abstentions (resolution 57/196).

The Acting President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 57/197).

The Acting President: Draft resolution III is entitled "The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern

Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, Marshall Islands, Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Micronesia (Federated States of), Tonga, Vanuatu.

Draft resolution III was adopted by 172 votes to 4, with 3 abstentions (resolution 57/198).

The Acting President: I call on the observer of Palestine.

Mr. Al-Kidwa (Palestine): At this time, I would like to take the opportunity to say a few words on the issue of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, particularly as my delegation did not do so after the vote on the draft resolution related to that issue in the Third Committee. However, before doing so, I wish to express our thanks and appreciation to all those who voted in favour of the resolution entitled "The situation of and assistance to Palestinian children". We maintain the hope that those who abstained on that important and timely resolution will join the majority on this critical issue in the future as long as the conditions of Palestinian children continue to warrant such a resolution.

We are pleased with and very proud of the results of the vote on the resolution entitled "The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination", as well as with the impressive number of sponsors of that resolution. The right to self-determination remains a central issue for our people, and the continuous reaffirmation of that right by the international community — such as its support for the resolution — is essential until the actual realization of that right.

Nevertheless, it is imperative that we express our deep concern at the negative vote cast by Israel on the resolution. Such a vote serves only as additional proof that the Israeli Government indeed rejects a real peace settlement based on the existence of two States, Israel and Palestine. Even worse, the vote is inconsistent with the mutual recognition achieved at the beginning of the Oslo peace process between the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization. Reneging by one side on that mutual recognition not only is dangerous and tragic but, if established, would lead to the recognition's nullification, not only by one side but in its entirety.

The vote by the delegation of the United States is also very disappointing and unfortunate. That is particularly so in the light of the special responsibilities of the United States and the role that it plays in international politics, including in the Middle East. In fact, it is impossible to reconcile statements made by the President of the United States concerning his vision of a region with two States, Israel and Palestine, on the one hand, and the negative vote by the United States on this resolution, on the other. Indeed, it is extremely difficult for the Palestinian people — and, I would imagine, even for the Israeli people — to take such a position and vision seriously while, at the same time, witnessing a negative vote by the United States on such a resolution.

If we are to achieve peace in the Middle East, we need a solution that recognizes and guarantees the basic and national rights of both peoples. The recognition of the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, including their right to an independent State of Palestine, is the first step in that direction. It is our hope that we will see a unanimous vote on this resolution next year.

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of agenda item 108?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 109

Human rights questions

Report of the Third Committee (A/57/556)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 4 of its report. The draft decision is entitled "Documents considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of human rights".

May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to adopt the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 57/533).

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 109.

Agenda item 109 (*continued*)

Sub-item (a)

Implementation of human rights instruments

Report of the Third Committee (A/57/556/Add.1)

The Acting President: The representative of Bahrain has asked for the floor before the vote.

Mr. Saleh (Bahrain) (*spoke in Arabic*): My country's delegation wishes to explain its position before the vote on the draft resolution on the implementation of human rights instruments and on the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

The Kingdom of Bahrain is making efforts, particularly within the area of the democratic process, to establish institutions designed to serve the aspirations of our people, which will help advance the interests of Bahraini citizens. The Constitution and legislation of Bahrain condemn all forms of discrimination against or cruel treatment of any human beings within the territory of the Kingdom whether they are citizens or resident aliens. That is tangible evidence of the great importance the Kingdom of Bahrain attaches to the preservation of and respect for human rights in order to promote human dignity and the role of individuals.

In that regard, the Kingdom of Bahrain has supported the adoption of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment by the Commission on Human Rights at is fifty-eighth session in Geneva and by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive meeting in July 2002. The Kingdom of Bahrain supports the draft resolution on the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and expresses reservations concerning the mechanism dealing with expenses incurred by the Optional Protocol.

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the four draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 31 of its report.

Draft resolution I is entitled "Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Marshall Islands, Nigeria, Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Australia, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belize, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cameroon, China, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Grenada, Guyana, India, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mauritania, Myanmar, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam.

Draft resolution I was adopted by 127 votes to 4, with 42 abstentions (resolution 57/199).

The Acting President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 57/200).

The Acting President: Draft resolution III is entitled "International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution III without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution III was adopted (resolution 57/201).

The Acting President: Draft resolution IV is entitled "Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution IV without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution IV was adopted (resolution 57/202).

The Acting President: I now give the floor of the representative of Japan to speak in explanation of vote after the vote on the resolutions just adopted.

Mr. Tomoshige (Japan): I would like to speak in explanation of vote on the resolution entitled "Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment", which was just adopted.

My delegation abstained in the vote. In that connection, I would like to explain the position of the Government of Japan. My delegation has expressed serious concern on several occasions about the flawed procedure that was followed in drafting the Optional Protocol, as well as about the financial issues arising from the implementation of that Protocol. I will not repeat those concerns here. My delegation wishes to stress once again that that manner of negotiation should not be repeated in drafting of future human rights instruments. The Government of Japan is fully and consistently committed to the prevention of torture, which must not happen at any time anywhere in the world.

My delegation reaffirms the firm position of my Government regarding the prevention of torture. My Government seriously notes that the Optional Protocol was adopted by three preceding forums, including the Third Committee, and it has finally been adopted by the General Assembly in its plenary. My delegation solemnly notes the fact that the Optional Protocol will enter into force with ratification or accession by 20 States, at which time its role as a tool to prevent the practice of torture, which has universal value, will begin.

Given the adoption of the Optional Protocol at the plenary of the General Assembly, my Government wishes to actively engage in such undertakings to have the visiting mechanism to be established under the Optional Protocol effectively carry out its activities.

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (a) of agenda item 109?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 109 (*continued*)

Sub-item (b)

Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Report of the Third Committee (A/57/556/Add.2)

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/57/660)

The Acting President: The report of the Fifth Committee on the programme budget implications of

draft resolution XXVI is contained in document A/57/660.

I give the floor to the representative of Costa Rica to make an explanation of vote before the vote.

Mr. Stagno (Costa Rica) (*spoke in Spanish*): I would like to explain my delegation's vote on draft resolution XXVI, on the Khmer Rouge trials. Costa Rica believes that it is imperative to bring to justice those responsible for violations of human rights. The defence and promotion of human rights is a priority area of our foreign policy. In this connection, justice requires that the minimum standards of due process be respected.

Costa Rica has supported the efforts of the United Nations to bring to justice those who have committed crimes against humanity in Cambodia. However, we have witnessed with concern the difficulties involved in negotiating an agreement to try those responsible for these crimes. We believe that it is essential for the Government of Cambodia to commit itself unreservedly to respecting the highest standards of justice and of due process in judging those crimes.

Unfortunately, the text of this draft resolution leaves doubts as to the transparency and justice of the process by which with those charged with violations of human rights will be judged. The reference to two articles of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, in addition to being selective, undermines the principles that must be observed in any criminal proceeding.

Moreover, we are concerned that the text of this draft resolution limits the capacity of the Secretary-General to negotiate guarantees on the observance of the highest standards of due process. Accordingly, Costa Rica will abstain in the voting on this draft resolution, just as we did on 20 November in the Third Committee.

Mrs. Serazzi (Chile) (*spoke in Spanish*): The delegation of Chile, as is our tradition, has once again supported the draft resolution on human rights and cultural diversity, contained in document A/57/556/Add.2, because our country attaches particular importance to respect for and coexistence of the various cultures that exist on our planet.

However, Chile, while reiterating its commitment to the universal validity of human rights, would like to state for the record that such universality of human rights implies acceptance of the intrinsic dignity of all the inhabitants of the earth, irrespective of culture, religion, social status, ethnic origin, gender or tradition. Neither lack of development nor cultural characteristics can be used as a pretext to justify any limitation of the rights recognized in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international instruments for the promotion and protection of such rights.

Mr. Al-Murri (Qatar) (*spoke in Arabic*): The delegation of my country would like to speak in explanation of vote before the vote on the third preambular paragraph and operative paragraphs 6, 11, 12, 18 and 22 of draft resolution XII entitled "Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary execution". My country would have joined countries that support it had the content of the draft resolution been consistent with its title. Instead, it focuses on killing and forces upon us the subject of honour and sexual orientation, thus emptying the draft resolution of its original focus and making it serve a different agenda. We cannot ignore the fact that the Special Rapporteur, in her report, has gone beyond her mandate, which did not include the right to consider the controversial subjects that she dealt with. This has raised doubt, suspicion and mistrust among the negotiating countries. The Rapporteur's action is regrettable indeed. Hence, my country will vote against the controversial paragraphs, while abstaining in the vote on the draft resolution as a whole.

Mr. Ouch (Cambodia): At the outset, on behalf of the people and the Royal Government of Cambodia, I would like to express our sincere thanks to all interested States, in particular Japan, France and Australia, for their efforts in drafting draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.70, for the resumption of negotiations between the Secretary-General and Cambodia on Khmer Rouge trials. My delegation was very pleased to actively engage in the process of drafting this draft resolution, which was adopted in the Third Committee on 20 November 2002.

In this connection, on behalf of the Royal Government of Cambodia, I would like to take this opportunity to express our sincerest gratitude to all representatives for their valuable support for this draft resolution, which, indeed, is a sine qua non condition for the resumption of negotiations between my Government and the United Nations towards the establishment of a special chamber in the Cambodian

Court to try the top leaders of the Khmer Rouge — those most responsible for the crimes committed against humanity during the genocidal regime of the Khmer Rouge from 1975 to 1979 — in accordance with international standards of justice, fairness and due process of law.

My delegation has decided to support this draft resolution to prove our commitment and our political will to resume negotiations with the United Nations. We should therefore concentrate our efforts to bring back Cambodia and the United Nations to the negotiating table as soon as possible.

The draft resolution before us is an indispensable instrument for the achievement of the lofty goal of bringing justice to the Cambodian people and to those who survived the genocidal regime.

May I conclude by saying that the Royal Government of Cambodia remains committed to working with the United Nations to achieve a final resolution to the crimes against humanity perpetrated by the Khmer Rouge and to blot out this mournful page of Cambodia's history.

On this solemn occasion, my delegation would like once again humbly to appeal to representatives kindly to give their fullest support to this draft resolution in order to pave the way for the trial of the most accountable perpetrators of crimes against humanity in the twentieth century.

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on 27 draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 127 of its report and on one draft decision recommended by the Committee in paragraph 128 of the same report.

We turn first to draft resolution I, entitled "Strengthening United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution I without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution I was adopted (resolution 57/203).

The Acting President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Human rights and cultural diversity". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 57/204).

The Acting President: Draft resolution III is entitled "Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark,

Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia.

Abstaining:

Argentina, Colombia, Guatemala, Singapore, Turkey.

Draft resolution III was adopted by 124 votes to 52, with 5 abstentions (resolution 57/205).

[Subsequently the delegation of Chile informed the Secretariat that it had intended to abstain.]

The Acting President: Draft resolution IV is entitled "Human rights education". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution IV without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution IV was adopted (resolution 57/206).

The Acting President: Draft resolution V is entitled "Missing persons". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution V without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution V was adopted (resolution 57/207).

The Acting President: Draft resolution VI is entitled "Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution VI without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution VI was adopted (resolution 57/208).

The Acting President: Draft resolution VII is entitled "Declaration on the right and responsibility of individuals, groups and organs of society to promote and protect universally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution VII without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution VII was adopted (resolution 57/209).

The Acting President: Draft resolution VIII is entitled "Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution VIII without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution VIII was adopted (resolution 57/210).

The Acting President: Draft resolution IX is entitled "Human rights and extreme poverty". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution IX without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution IX was adopted (resolution 57/211).

The Acting President: Draft resolution X is entitled "United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1994-2004". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution X without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution X was adopted (resolution 57/212).

The Acting President: Draft resolution XI is entitled "Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon,

Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia.

Abstaining:

Argentina, Fiji, Guatemala, Mexico, Nauru, Panama, Peru.

Draft resolution XI was adopted by 116 votes to 55, with 7 abstentions (resolution 57/213).

The Acting President: Draft resolution XII is entitled "Extra-judicial, summary or arbitrary executions".

Separate votes have been requested on the third preambular paragraph, the seventh preambular paragraph and operative paragraph 3 together, and operative paragraphs 6, 11, 12, 18 and 22. Are there any objections to these requests?

I shall now put to the vote the third preambular paragraph of draft resolution XII.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia.

Against:

Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burundi, Chad, China, Comoros, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, United Arab Emirates, Yemen.

Abstaining:

Angola, Belize, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Indonesia, Israel, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi,

Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Uganda, Vanuatu, Zimbabwe.

The third preambular paragraph of draft resolution XII was retained by 97 votes to 30, with 42 abstentions.

The Acting President: I now put to the vote, together, the seventh preambular paragraph and operative paragraph 3 of draft resolution XII.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, Marshall Islands, Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Cuba, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Tonga, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates.

The seventh preambular paragraph and operative paragraph 3 were retained by 130 votes to 4, with 31 abstentions.

[Subsequently the delegation of Guatemala informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.]

The Acting President: I shall now put to the vote operative paragraph 6 of draft resolution XII, on which a separate vote has been requested.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the

former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia.

Against:

Algeria, Bahrain, Brunei Darussalam, Chad, China, Comoros, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gambia, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen.

Abstaining:

Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea, Haiti, India, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Namibia, Papua New Guinea, Russian Federation, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tonga, Turkey, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Operative paragraph 6 was retained by 104 votes to 37, with 29 abstentions.

The Acting President: I shall now put to the vote operative paragraph 11 of draft resolution XII, on which a separate vote has been requested.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia.

Against:

Bahrain, Bangladesh, China, Comoros, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Gambia, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Morocco, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, Yemen.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, India, Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lebanon, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tonga, Turkey, Vanuatu, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Operative paragraph 11 was retained by 99 votes to 33, with 39 abstentions.

The Acting President: I shall now put to the vote operative paragraph 12 of draft resolution XII, on which a separate vote has been requested.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas,

Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia.

Against:

Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, China, Comoros, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Gambia, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Morocco, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bhutan, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Israel, Kazakhstan, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Namibia, Papua New Guinea, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tonga, Turkey, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Operative paragraph 12 was retained by 100 votes to 33, with 36 abstentions.

[Subsequently the delegation of Colombia informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.]

The Acting President: I shall now put to the vote operative paragraph 18 of draft resolution XII, on which a separate vote has been requested.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia.

Against:

Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, China, Comoros, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Eritrea, Gambia, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Myanmar, Nauru, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tonga, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United States of America, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chad,

Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Ethiopia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Zambia.

Operative paragraph 18 was retained by 78 votes to 41, with 50 abstentions.

The Acting President: I shall now put to the vote operative paragraph 22 of draft resolution XII, on which a separate vote has been requested.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia.

Against:

Bahrain, China, Comoros, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Egypt, Gambia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, United States of America, Yemen.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Haiti, Indonesia, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lebanon, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Myanmar, Papua New Guinea, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Zimbabwe.

Operative paragraph 22 was retained by 103 votes to 25, with 40 abstentions.

The Acting President: I now put to the vote draft resolution XII as a whole.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia,

Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

None.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, China, Comoros, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gambia, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Myanmar, Nauru, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen.

Draft resolution XII, as a whole, was adopted by 130 votes to none, with 49 abstentions (resolution 57/214).

The Acting President: Draft resolution XIII is entitled "Question of enforced or involuntary disappearances".

A separate vote has been requested on the seventh preambular paragraph of draft resolution XIII.

Is there any objection to this request?

There is none.

I shall first put to the vote the seventh preambular paragraph of draft resolution XIII, on which a separate vote has been requested.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

United States of America.

Abstaining:

Honduras, Israel, Kazakhstan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Marshall Islands, Myanmar, Pakistan, Palau, Tonga.

The seventh preambular paragraph of draft resolution XIII was retained by 166 votes to 1, with 9 abstentions.

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution XIII as a whole.

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution XIII without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt draft resolution XIII as a whole?

Draft resolution XIII as a whole was adopted (resolution 215).

The Acting President: Draft resolution XIV is entitled "Promotion of the right of peoples to peace".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia.

Abstaining:

Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ethiopia, Fiji, Guatemala, India, Madagascar, Nauru, Samoa, Singapore, Tonga, Uruguay, Uzbekistan.

Draft resolution XIV was adopted by 116 votes to 53, with 14 abstentions (resolution 57/216).

The Acting President: Draft resolution XV is entitled "Respect for the purposes and principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms and in solving international problems of a humanitarian character".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt,

El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia.

Abstaining:

Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Fiji, Guatemala, Latvia, Madagascar, Nauru, Peru, Philippines, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Singapore, Thailand, Tonga, Uruguay.

Draft resolution XV was adopted by 114 votes to 54, with 15 abstentions (resolution 57/217).

The Acting President: Draft resolution XVI is entitled "Protection of migrants".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution XVI without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution XVI was adopted (resolution 57/218).

The Acting President: Draft resolution XVII is entitled "Protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution XVII without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution XVII was adopted (resolution 57/219).

The Acting President: Draft resolution XVIII is entitled "Hostage-taking".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution XVIII without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution XVIII was adopted (resolution 57/220).

The Acting President: Draft resolution XIX is entitled "Strengthening of the rule of law". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution XIX without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution XIX was adopted (resolution 57/221).

The Acting President: Draft resolution XX is entitled "Human rights and unilateral coercive measures".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia,

Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia.

Abstaining:

Kazakhstan.

Draft resolution XX was adopted by 122 votes to 55, with 1 abstention (resolution 57/222).

The Acting President: Draft resolution XXI is entitled "The right to development".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Australia, Marshall Islands, Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of

Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yugoslavia.

Draft resolution XXI was adopted by 133 votes to 4, with 47 abstentions (resolution 57/223).

The Acting President: Draft resolution XXII is entitled "Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights".

The Third Committee adopted draft resolution XXII without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution XXII was adopted (resolution 57/224).

The Acting President: Draft resolution XXIII is entitled "Situation of human rights in Cambodia". The Third Committee adopted resolution XXIII without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution XXIII was adopted (resolution 57/225).

The Acting President: We now turn to draft resolution XXIV, entitled "The right to food".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

United States of America.

Abstaining:

Australia, Canada, Fiji, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau.

Draft resolution XXIV was adopted by 176 votes to 1, with 7 abstentions (resolution 57/226).

The Acting President: Draft resolution XXV is entitled "Respect for the right to universal freedom of travel and the vital importance of family reunification".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile,

China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mozambique, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Yugoslavia.

Draft resolution XXV was adopted by 109 votes to 3, with 71 abstentions (resolution 57/227).

The Acting President: We now turn to draft resolution XXVI, entitled "Khmer Rouge trials".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

None.

Abstaining:

Belarus, Belgium, Botswana, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Draft resolution XXVI was adopted by 150 votes to none, with 30 abstentions (resolution 57/228).

The Acting President: Draft resolution XXVII is entitled "Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution XXVII without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do likewise?

Draft resolution XXVII was adopted (resolution 57/229).

The Acting President: The draft decision entitled "Award of human rights prizes in 2003" was adopted by the Third Committee without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt the draft decision, as orally corrected by the Rapporteur?

The draft decision, as orally corrected by the Rapporteur, was adopted (decision 57/533).

The Acting President: I now give the floor to those who wish to speak in explanation of vote after the vote.

Mr. Enkhsaikhan (Mongolia): My delegation voted in favour of the resolution entitled "Promotion of the right of peoples to peace" since Mongolian principles stands firmly for promoting the right of peoples to peace.

In 1984 it was my country that initiated consideration by the General Assembly and adoption of the Declaration of the Right of Peoples to Peace". The importance of the Declaration at that time was in the reaffirmation of the fundamental right of peoples to live in peace, without war, as it is solemnly declared in the Preamble of the Charter of the United Nations. We believe that the Declaration's goal is as relevant today as it was two decades ago.

Given the above in mind, my delegation wishes to express some concern about bringing this issue, essentially of war and peace, to the Assembly in the context of human rights. That is narrowing substantially the scope of the right, as envisaged in the regional declaration of 1984.

While underlining the indispensable link between peace and human rights, my delegation feels that the issue of rights of peoples to peace would be better dealt with in more appropriate forums as, my delegation has suggested to the original sponsors of the resolution.

Finally, my delegation supports the view that necessary consultations should have been carried out among Member States on such an important issue before bringing the draft resolution for adoption. My delegation expresses the hope that the spirit of cooperation will prevail in the future on such important issues that affect the rights of all peoples and all Member States.

Mr. Haraguchi (Japan): I am commenting on the Khmer Rouge trials and the resolution which the General Assembly just adopted on that subject.

First of all, let me express my deep appreciation to Member States for their support for this resolution. Japan believes that its adoption by the United Nations General Assembly is of great significance as it will reopen the process of bringing to justice those responsible for the atrocities committed by the Khmer Rouge against the people of Cambodia. At least one million people, or a quarter of the Cambodian population, is said to have been killed during the era of the Khmer Rouge.

It is the international community's obligation and the will of the Cambodian people to bring to justice those responsible for one of the most horrendous violations of human rights in the twentieth century.

The adoption of this resolution is an important step toward that goal. But I have to emphasize that it is just one step. The next step will be the resumption of negotiations between the United Nations Secretariat and the Cambodian Government on the arrangements concerning the establishment of a credible tribunal. Let us not underestimate the difficulties of this endeavour. The Secretary-General and the Secretariat have a particularly important role to play in the negotiations before and during the trials. We appeal to the Secretariat to make every effort in the negotiations to

ensure that a credible tribunal is established as soon as possible in accordance with this resolution.

The Government of Japan has worked very hard over the past month to address some of the concerns the Secretariat had in the course of its past negotiations with the Cambodian Government. We believe that, with a clear mandate contained in this resolution, the Secretariat is now in a better negotiating position. Japan is ready to extend support to the effort of the Secretary-General to reach an agreement with the Cambodian Government. Now that the resolution is adopted without any opposition, we call on all Member States, including those who abstained in the voting on the resolution, to join us in this endeavour. Indeed, the Secretary-General needs and expects the broad support of the international community as he undertakes his important task.

Last but not least, let me also appeal to the Cambodian Government to fully commit itself to establishing credible trials. In this connection, I am very pleased to have heard the strong commitment from the Cambodian Ambassador. It is after all, the Government of Cambodia and its people who requested these trials and it is they who have the most at stake. We hope that the Cambodian Government will take the lead in the process and engage sincerely and in good faith in the negotiations with the United Nations.

Let me stress once again that the success of the process leading to credible trials depends on the efforts and the commitment of the parties concerned together with the understanding and cooperation of all interested Member States.

The Acting President: We have heard the last speaker in explanation of vote.

Mr. Ouch (Cambodia): On behalf of the people and the Royal Government of Cambodia, I would like to express our sincere thanks to all Member States who have voted in favour of this resolution. Once again, I would like to reiterate our commitment to bringing justice to our people.

Mr. Roshdy (Egypt): My delegation has taken the floor to make a general comment on the report of the Third Committee, particularly document A/57/556/Add.2. It was the understanding we had in the Committee that the comment made by my delegation concerning rule 89 of the rules of procedure will be duly reflected in the report. Unfortunately, it was not. That is why I have to repeat what I said in the Committee and maybe even to elaborate.

My comment concerns rule 89 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, and particularly the fourth sentence of this rule, which reads as follows: "If the motion for division is carried, those parts of the proposal or of the amendment which are approved shall then be put to the vote as a whole". My reading of this sentence is that if a part of a resolution is voted on, be it one paragraph or two paragraphs, then the whole resolution should be automatically put to a vote without the need for any delegation to request a vote. I understand that that has not been common practice in the Committee or in other Committees of the General Assembly, but I am afraid that that must change, for two reasons.

First, with regard to procedure: my delegation believes that the rules of procedure were established and amended — the most recent amendment was made eight years ago — in order to be followed at all times and under all circumstances, not upon request. We have established rules of procedure to govern our work, and we should abide by them.

Secondly, concerning substance: I think that following this rule will make delegations more eager to achieve consensus, which will benefit the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, ensuring that they reflect the largest possible majority of members of the international community. That is why there should be no doubt that, beginning next year, my delegation will insist on invoking rule 89 with respect to any draft resolution that contains a part adopted by a vote, and I think that it should be the responsibility of the Bureaus of the Committees to do this as well. I understand and accept the explanation given to my delegation this year by the Bureau of the Third Committee regarding the practical reasons that made that impossible, but I hope that, beginning in the fifty-eighth session, all the rules of procedure will be followed and respected.

Mr. Nikiforov (Russian Federation) (*spoke in Russian*): My delegation joined in the consensus on draft resolution XVII. In Russia, we know what terrorism represents and the suffering that it causes among individual citizens. When one addresses the issue of human rights and terrorism, it is important to consider that terrorism is an exceptional phenomenon and that the measures taken by Governments to combat it have an exceptional nature, with consequences for

human rights and fundamental freedoms. Accordingly, we believe that the text of the draft resolution should have been considered more carefully to ensure that it reflected in a more balanced and more accurate way the approaches taken by all States in finding a solution to a very sensitive issue for the international community: guaranteeing human rights in the fight against terrorism. We believe that that is how this issue should be considered at the United Nations in the future.

The Acting President: I now give the floor to the representative of the Dominican Republic, who wishes to speak on a point of order.

Mr. Félix (Dominican Republic) (*spoke in Spanish*): In document A/57/556/Add.2, the name of my delegation appears as a sponsor of draft resolution XXV. We should like to clarify for the Assembly that, although we voted in favour of that draft resolution, we are not one of its sponsors. We hope that the Secretariat will take note of this clarification.

The Acting President: The Secretariat will take note of that information.

The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of sub-item (b) of agenda item 109.

(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

Report of the Third Committee (A/57/556/Add.3)

Report of the Fifth Committee (A/57/647)

The Acting President: The report of the Fifth Committee on the programme budget implications of draft resolution II is contained in document A/57/647.

I shall now call on those representatives who wish to speak in explanation of vote before the voting.

Mr. Sallam (Saudi Arabia) (*spoke in Arabic*): With regard to draft resolution III contained in document A/57/556/Add.3, my delegation notes that paragraph 5 (m) of the draft resolution calls upon the Government of Iraq to cooperate fully with the Tripartite Commission and its Technical Subcommittee to establish the whereabouts and resolve the fate of the remaining several hundred missing persons, including prisoners of war, Kuwaiti nationals and third-country nationals, victims of the illegal Iraqi occupation of Kuwait.

Mr. Erwa (Sudan) (*spoke in Arabic*): Since my delegation has already made a general statement in the Third Committee, we should now like to speak in explanation of vote regarding draft resolution I, on the situation of human rights in the Sudan, contained in document A/57/556/Add.3. We thank the delegation of the European Union for its efforts on that draft resolution. However, we should like to state the following.

First of all, I am sure that everyone has been following the developments in the situation in the Sudan and the peace process in that country. As we speak, two delegations — those of the Government of the Sudan and of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement — are meeting in Washington within the framework of measures aimed at achieving peace. That meeting is taking place as an extension of the African measures adopted in Kenya this year, which led to a cessation of hostilities — hence the flow of humanitarian assistance and the cessation of killing.

We are immensely interested in human rights issues, and we have no objection to the consideration of such issues, as long as they are addressed with full impartiality and objectivity. Most of the European sponsors of this draft resolution are fully aware of the peace process in the Sudan, and we thank them for that. However, the official positions and statements of their Governments concerning the peace process totally contradict the tenor of this draft resolution; indeed, they are diametrically opposed to it. On the one hand, they are in favour of the peace process, and we are grateful for that. On the other hand, while attempting to satisfy certain pressure groups led by certain non-governmental organizations in their own countries, the draft resolution does the opposite. Therefore, we reject this draft resolution, which is not objective or impartial. It is totally politicized. Therefore, my delegation will vote against it and will request all other States to vote against it for the following reasons.

First, there is a need to send a message of encouragement to the Government of the Sudan to continue to make progress on the path of peace on which it has embarked and is about to be completed, in order to put an end to suffering in the Sudan. The war is one of the main causes of human rights violations and is itself a human rights violation.

Secondly, by voting against the draft resolution, we are showing that it is not objective or impartial.

Thirdly, this draft resolution is politicized first and foremost. Human rights issues are too lofty to be subjected to political agendas.

The Acting President: The Assembly will take a decision on the five draft resolutions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 46 of its report.

We turn first to draft resolution I, entitled "Situation of human rights in the Sudan".

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia.

Against:

Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Guinea, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining:

Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Belarus, Bhutan, Botswana, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Dominica, Eritrea, Ghana, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mongolia, Philippines, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Zambia.

Draft resolution I was adopted by 80 votes to 62, with 33 abstentions (resolution 57/230).

The Acting President: Draft resolution II is entitled "Situation of human rights in Myanmar". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution II without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution II was adopted (resolution 57/231).

The Acting President: Draft resolution III is entitled "Situation of human rights in Iraq". Separate votes have been requested on operative paragraphs 4 (a), 4 (b), 4 (e) and 4 (f) of draft resolution III.

Are there any objections to those requests? There are none.

I shall put to the vote operative paragraph 4 (a) of draft resolution III, on which a separate vote has been requested.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland,

Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Yugoslavia.

Against:

China, Cuba, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Russian Federation, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Viet Nam.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Operative paragraph 4 (a) of draft resolution III was retained by 83 votes to 7, with 81 abstentions.

The Acting President: I shall now put to the vote operative paragraph 4 (b) of draft resolution III, on which a separate vote has been requested.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Yugoslavia.

Against:

China, Cuba, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Russian Federation, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Viet Nam.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Thailand,

Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Operative paragraph 4 (b) of draft resolution III was retained by 82 votes to 7, with 83 abstentions.

The Acting President: I shall now put to the vote operative paragraph 4 (e) of draft resolution III.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Yugoslavia.

Against:

China, Cuba, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Russian Federation, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Viet Nam.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Operative paragraph 4 (e) of draft resolution III was retained by 84 votes to 7, with 80 abstentions.

The Acting President: I shall now put to the vote operative paragraph 4 (f) of draft resolution III, on which a separate vote has been requested.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Yugoslavia.

Against:

China, Cuba, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Russian Federation, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Viet Nam.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Operative paragraph 4 (f) of draft resolution III was retained by 85 votes to 7, with 79 abstentions.

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution III as a whole, as orally corrected by the Rapporteur.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Yugoslavia.

Against:

Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Draft resolution III as a whole, as orally corrected by the Rapporteur, was adopted by 97 votes to 3, with 77 abstentions (resolution 57/232).

The Acting President: Draft resolution IV is entitled "Situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo".

A separate vote has been requested on sub-paragraph (i) of paragraph 1 of draft resolution IV. Is there any objection to that request? There is none.

I shall now put to the vote sub-paragraph (i) of paragraph 1 of draft resolution IV, on which a separate vote has been requested.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

United States of America.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bhutan, Cameroon, Comoros, Dominica, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Palau, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda.

Sub-paragraph (i) of paragraph 1 of draft resolution IV was retained by 136 votes to 1, with 30 abstentions.

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on draft resolution IV as a whole, as orally corrected by the Rapporteur.

A recorded vote has been requested.

A recorded vote was taken.

In favour:

Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Yugoslavia.

Against:

Rwanda, Uganda.

Abstaining:

Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China,

Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Draft resolution IV, as orally corrected by the Rapporteur, was adopted by 92 votes to 2, with 81 abstentions (resolution 57/233).

The Acting President: Draft resolution V is entitled "Question of human rights in Afghanistan". The Third Committee adopted draft resolution V without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

Draft resolution V was adopted (resolution 57/234).

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of sub-item (c) of agenda item 109.

(d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

Report of the Third Committee (A/57/556/Add.4)

The Acting President: The Assembly will now take a decision on the draft decision recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 5 of its report.

The draft decision is entitled "Commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the World Conference on Human Rights in 2003".

The Third Committee adopted the draft decision without a vote. May I take it that the Assembly wishes to do the same?

The draft decision was adopted (decision 57/535).

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (d) of agenda item 109?

It was so decided.

(e) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Report of the Third Committee (A/57/556/Add.5)

The Acting President: May I take it that the Assembly takes note of the report of the Third Committee?

It was so decided.

The Acting President: May I take it that it is the wish of the General Assembly to conclude its consideration of sub-item (e) of agenda item 109?

It was so decided.

Agenda item 43

Follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children

Report of the Third Committee (A/57/557)

The Acting President: May I take it that the General Assembly takes note of the report of the Third Committee?

It was so decided.

The Acting President: The Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 43.

Agenda item 12 (*continued*)

Report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Third Committee (A/57/558)

The Acting President: The Assembly will take a decision on the two draft decisions recommended by the Third Committee in paragraph 8 of its report.

Draft decision I is entitled "Organization of the work of the Third Committee and biennial programme of work of the Committee for 2003-2004". May I take

it that the Assembly wishes to adopt draft decision I recommended by the Third Committee?

Draft decision I was adopted (decision 57/538).

The Acting President: Draft decision II is entitled "Report of the Economic and Social Council". May I take it that the Assembly wishes to adopt draft decision II recommended by the Third Committee?

Draft decision II was adopted (decision 57/539).

The Acting President: The General Assembly has thus concluded this stage of its consideration of agenda item 12.

The Assembly has thus concluded its consideration of all the reports of the Third Committee before it.

The meeting rose at 12.55 p.m.

United Nations A/57/PV.77/Corr.1

General Assembly

Official Records

Fifty-seventh session

77th plenary meeting
Wednesday, 18 December 2002, 10 a.m.
New York

Corrigendum

Page 6, second column

After

Draft resolution I was adopted by 136 votes to 7, with 29 abstentions (resolution 57/175).

Insert

[Subsequently the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.]

Page 16, first column

After

Draft resolution I was adopted by 127 votes to 4, with 42 abstentions (resolution 57/199).

Insert

[Subsequently the delegation of Israel informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote against.]

Page 26, first column

After

The seventh preambular paragraph of draft resolution XIII was retained by 166 votes to 1, with 9 abstentions.

Insert

[Subsequently the delegation of Guatemala informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.]

Page 28, first column

After

Draft resolution XX was adopted by 122 votes to 55, with 1 abstention (resolution 57/222).

Insert

[Subsequently the delegation of the Russian Federation informed the Secretariat that it had intended to vote in favour.]

03-24572 (E)